

PANDORA THE CRIMSON STEEL GHOST URN



story » Shirow Masamune

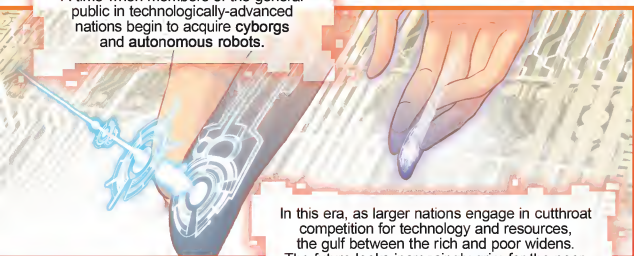
art » Rikudou Koushi

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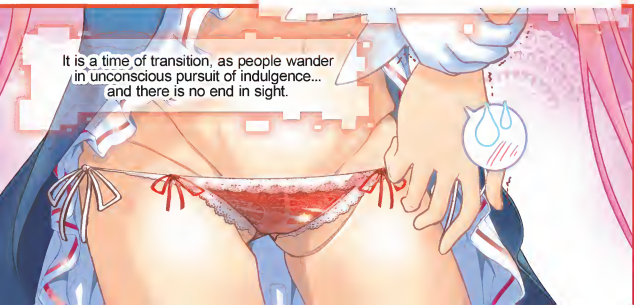
It is a time when the world is frequently ravaged by huge natural disasters.

A time when members of the general public in technologically-advanced nations begin to acquire cyborgs and autonomous robots.



In this era, as larger nations engage in cutthroat competition for technology and resources, the gulf between the rich and poor widens. The future looks increasingly grim for the poor.

It is a time of transition, as people wander in unconscious pursuit of indulgence... and there is no end in sight.



Something else
happens that has
nothing to do
with any of that.

A story begins
in which...

And in this
time...

GIRL
MEETS
GIRL.



Shirow Masamune Shirow

Shirow Masamune Shirow

PANDORA IN THE CRIMSON SHELL



GHOST
URN



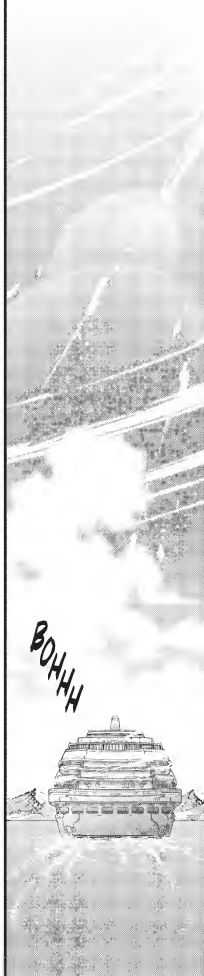
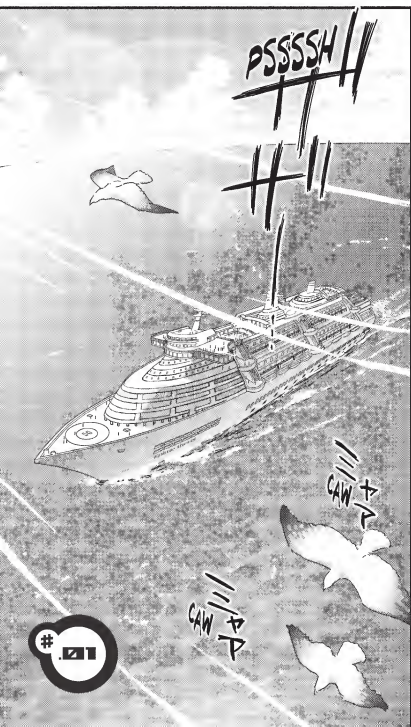
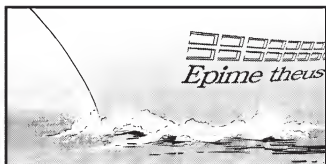
STORY BY
**SHIROW
MASAMUNE**

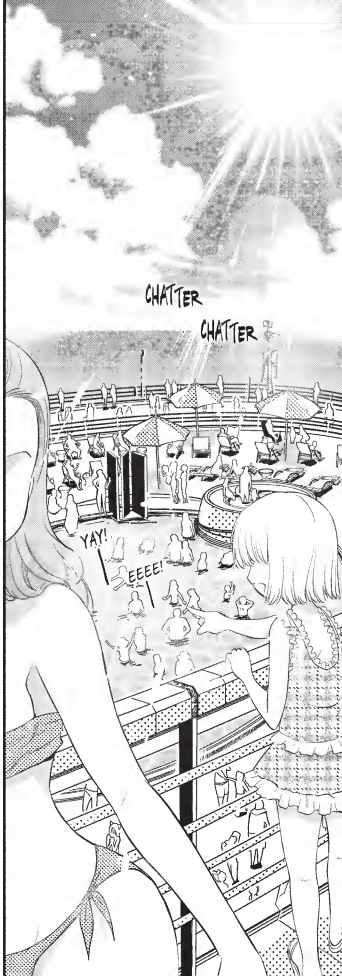
ART BY
**RIKUDOU
KOUSHI**

Rikudou

Koushi Rikudou Koushi

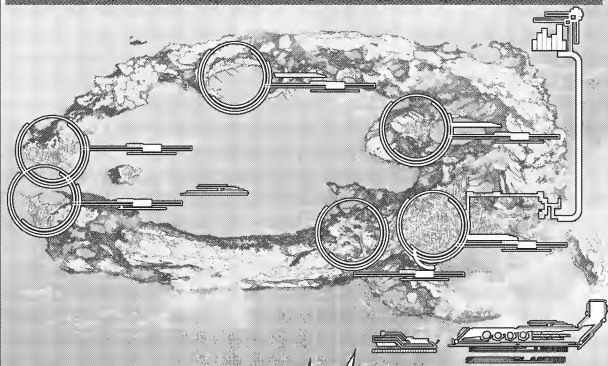
Koushi







THE ISLAND OF CENACLE



CENACLE IS A THRILLING LOCATION, SHOWCASING THE LATEST IN ENGINEERED CITY DESIGN-- COMPLETE WITH A **SUPER-LUXURIOUS RESORT AREA!**

THERE! IT'S COMING INTO VIEW NOW! LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE ISLAND OF CENACLE, FOLKS!

AND HERE TO ACT AS YOUR GUIDE TO CENACLE'S COUNTLESS CHARMS IS YOUR DOWN-TO-EARTH, IDOL-IN-THE-MAKING VARIETY REPORTER...

IT'S CURRENTLY THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS ISLAND IN THE WORLD, AS THE BEST-KNOWN COMPANIES AND BRANDS FLOCK TO IT. RUMOR HAS IT THAT BOTH SUPER-MODEL KANTINA AND FILM STAR TANAGIS PAKSHINU ARE ON THE WAITING LIST FOR SUMMER HOMES!

A close-up of a character with white hair and glasses yawning. The word "YAWN..." is written in large, bold, black letters above the character's head. The character has a wide, toothy grin and is looking slightly to the side. The background is a simple, light-colored gradient.

IF THEY GIVE ME CRAP LIKE THIS, HOW AM I EVER SUPPOSED TO TRANSITION FROM FIELD REPORTING TO VARIETY SHOWS TO BEING AN ACTRESS, HUH?!

WHAT'S WITH THIS AWFUL SCRIPT?!

UGH! THIS IS TERRIBLE!

SHRIEK

UGH!
THIS IS
TERRIBLE!

BOHHH

SHRIEK

SCREECH
SCREECH

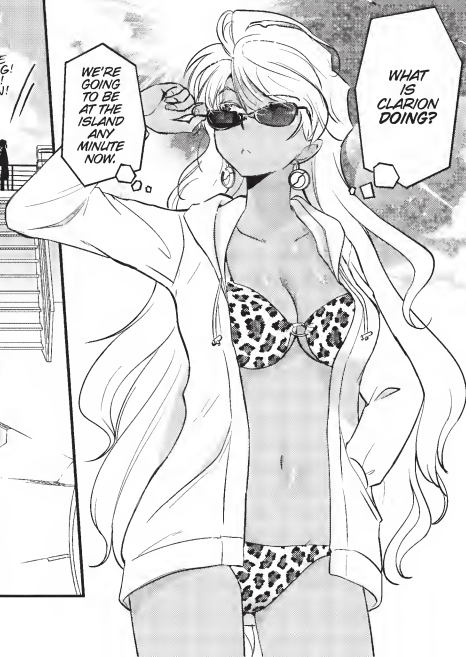
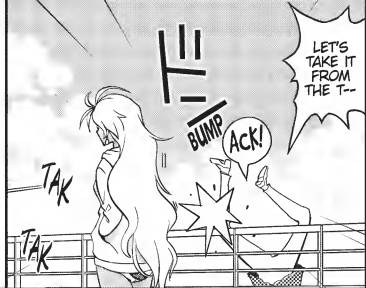
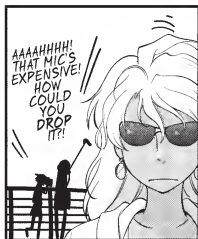
GUESS WE'LL BE ARRIVING SOON...

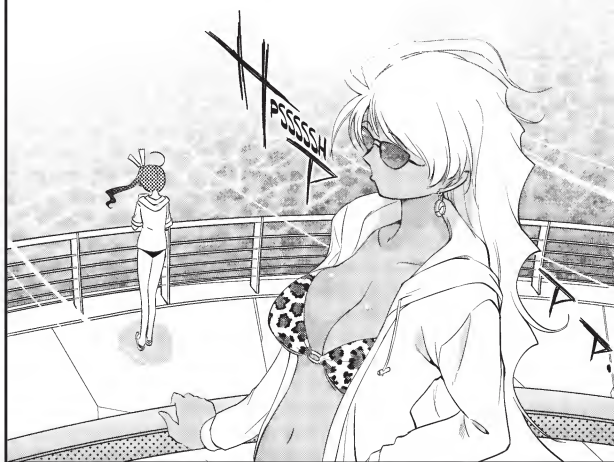
SHRIEK

IF WE DO SOME TOURISTY LITTLE PUFF PIECE, THE SOAP OPERAS'LL KICK OUR BUTTS! PUT YOURSELF IN THE SHOES OF THE AVERAGE CITIZEN! THEY THRIVE ON SHOCK VALUE! THEY WANT HORSE HEADS TURNING UP IN BEDS!

THERE'S GOTTA BE SOMETHING ON THAT BUBBLY ISLAND! SOME KIND OF SEEDY UNDERBELLY! A CORRUPT SOCIETY! CONSPIRACIES BEHIND EVERY CORNER!

THERE'S GOTTA
BE SOMETHING
ON THAT BUBBLY
ISLAND! SOME
KIND OF SEEDY
UNDERBELLY!
A CORRUPT
SOCIETY!
CONSPIRACIES
BEHIND EVERY
CORNER!



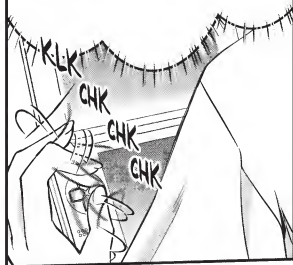




YOU'VE
GOTTA BE
SERIOUSLY
OBSESSED
TO GET THAT
GOOD WITH
A DIRECT-
CONTROLLER
GAME THESE
DAYS!

SHE
PLAYS LIKE
THOSE
VIDEO
GAME
JUNKIES
YOU USED
TO SEE.

LOOK
AT
HER
GO!

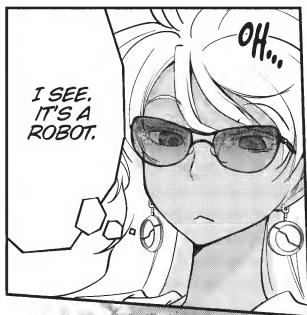


CREEPY!



IT'S
ACTUALLY
MORE
SCARY
THAN
CREEPY--
HUH...?



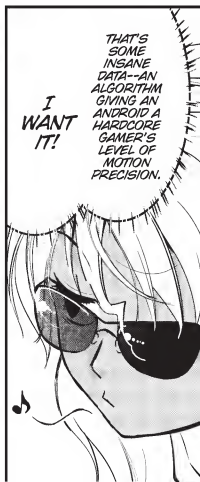
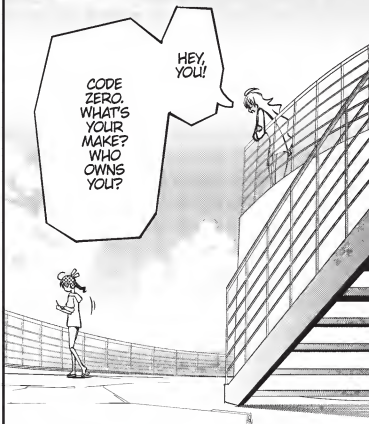
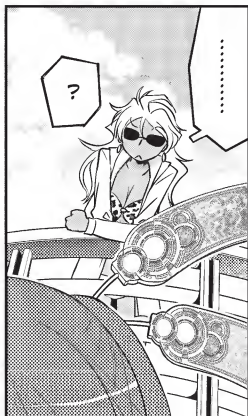


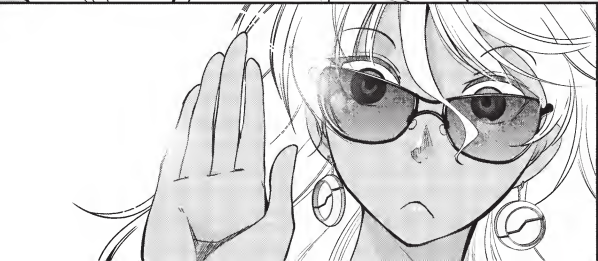
NO SURPRISE
THAT THERE'S
AT LEAST ONE
PERV ON A
SHIP FULL OF
STINKING-
RICH PEOPLE.

I
GUESS...

PROGRAMMING
ONE THAT
LOOKS LIKE
THAT TO BE
REALLY INTO
RETRO
GAMES...?











THANK
YOU SO
MUCH!

NOT
MANY
PEOPLE
UNDER-
STAND
RIGHT
AWAY.

OH,
THANK
GOOD-
NESS.

UH, YOU
DON'T
NEED TO
THANK ME.

ESPECIALLY
NOT SO
ENTHUSIAS-
TICALLY.

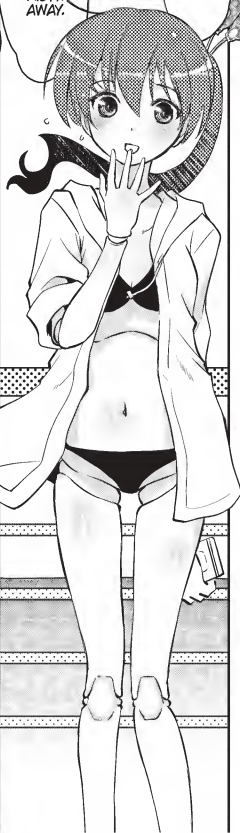
SIX YEARS AND
IT'S STILL HARD
TO EXPLAIN. I'VE
BEEN MISTAKEN
FOR AN ILLEGAL
ROBOT BEFORE.
I NEARLY GOT
TAKEN AWAY!

BUT IT'S
BEEN SO
LONG SINCE
I WORE A
SWIMSUIT,
AND I
REALLY
WANTED
TO...

NO, NO.
MY
MISTAKE.

SHE'S
REALLY
HUMAN.

SO THE
WAY SHE
PLAYED
THAT GAME
WASN'T A
PROGRAM...





HUH?
...?

INTER-
ESTING.



HUH?
BUT ISN'T
THIS GAME
FROM
OVER
TWENTY
YEARS---

MONSTER
BASH FOR THE
ORIGINAL GBA!
ONE OF THE
BEST GAMES
FROM WHEN I
WAS A KID!

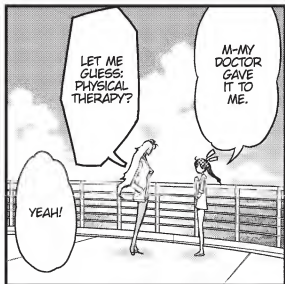
OH,
JUST
THAT
GAME
OF
YOURS.

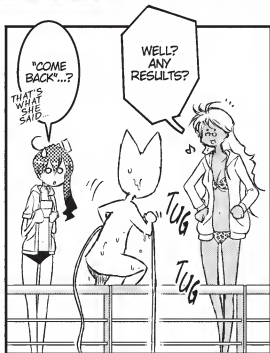
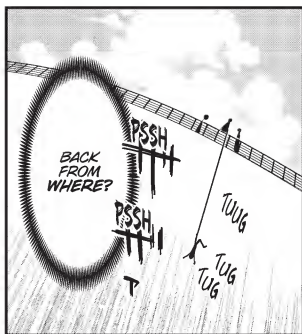
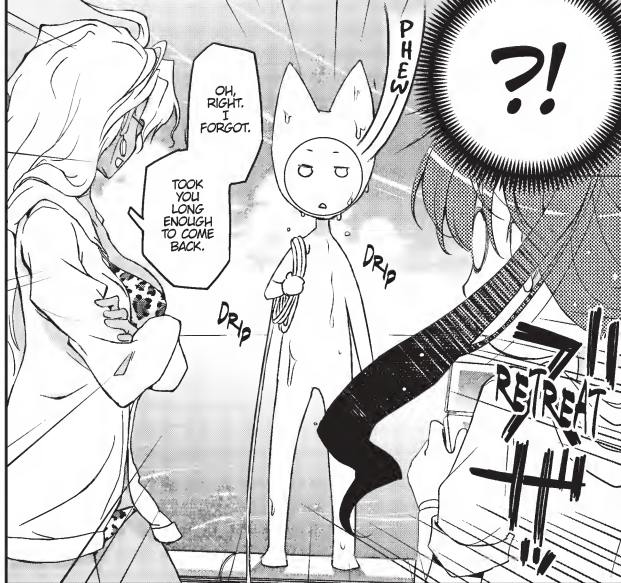
OH--!
DO YOU
KNOW
IT?

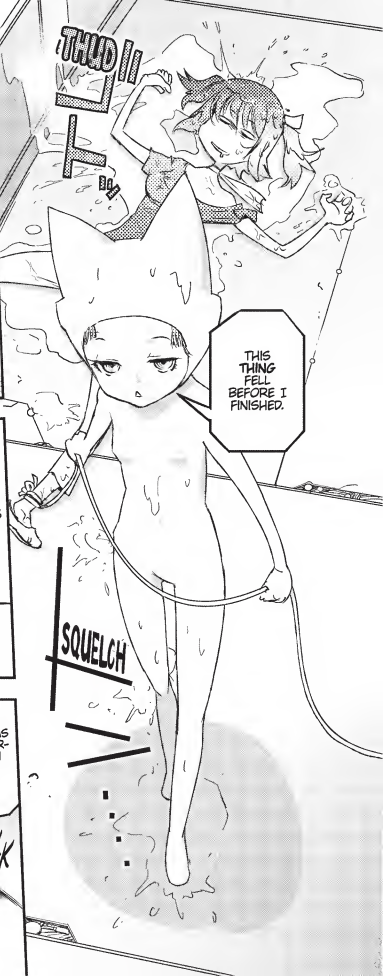


SKATING
ON
THIN
ICE.

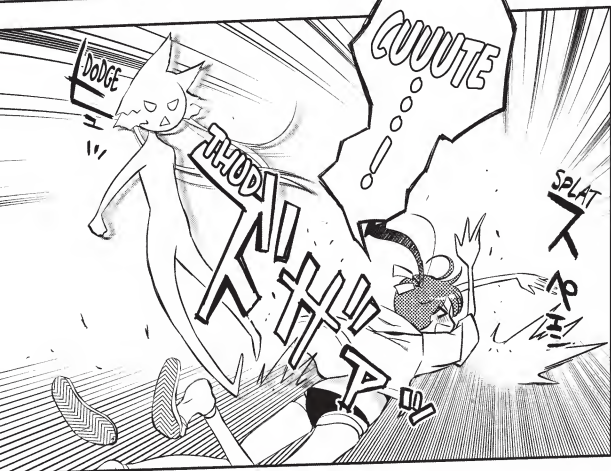














PSSSH PSSSH

CAW

WELL,
BETTER
LATE
THAN
NEVER.

I'M LIZAL
DELILAH.
I RUN
A LITTLE
BUSINESS
ON
CENACLE.

IT'S
NICE TO
MEET
YOU,
LIZAL-SAN!

BOW

I'M
NANA-
KOROBİ
NENE.

I'M
MOVING
TO THE
ISLAND
TODAY.

HMP
"NANA-
KOROBİ"
?

A PLEA-
SURE,
NENE-
KUN.

AND
THAT
IS--

KSH!!



I AM
LIZAL'S
TREASURED
PET.

MY
NAME IS
CLARION.

SQUEEE

クニ
ニ
ニ

GAPE

ANYONE
WHO
TOUCHES
MY EARS
WILL BE
DISPATCHED
TO HELL.

ABSO-
LUTELY
NOT.

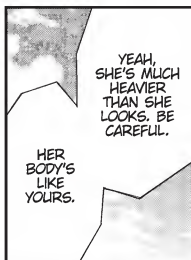
FOOLS
WHO
IGNORE MY
WARNING
WILL BE
SHOWN NO
MERCY.

HOW
CAN
YOU
BE SO
CUTE?!

I
WANNA
HUG
YOU!

SO
FLUFFY!

I'LL
TAKE
YOU
HOME!



FLEE...

AMAZING...!

A FULL-BODY
PROSTHETIC
MEANS THAT
EVERYTHING
BUT THE
BRAIN IS
ARTIFICIAL.

IT'S THE
FIRST
TIME I'VE
MET
SOMEONE
LIKE ME.

NICE
TO
MEET
YOU!

SO
YOU'RE A
FULL-BODY
TOO, HUH,
CLARION?!

I WANT
TO BE
FRIENDS!

IF IT WAS
SIX YEARS
AGO, YOU'VE
RESIZED YOUR
PROSTHETIC
SEVERAL
TIMES NOW.

COULDN'T
YOU HAVE
JUST
ORDERED
A CUTE
FACE?

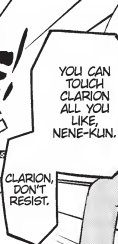
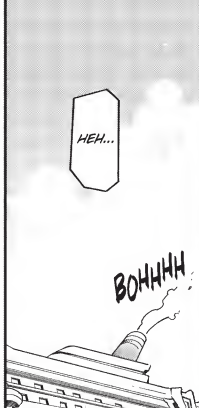
NO FAIR
THAT YOU
GOT SUCH
A CUTE
PROSTHETIC!

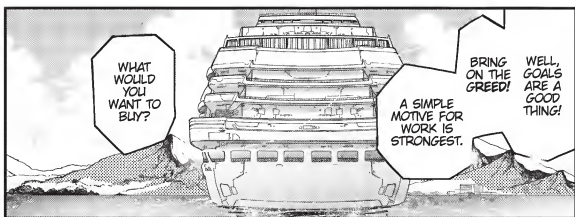
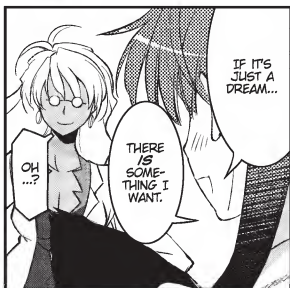
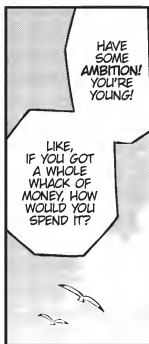
TOO CUTE!

Giddy

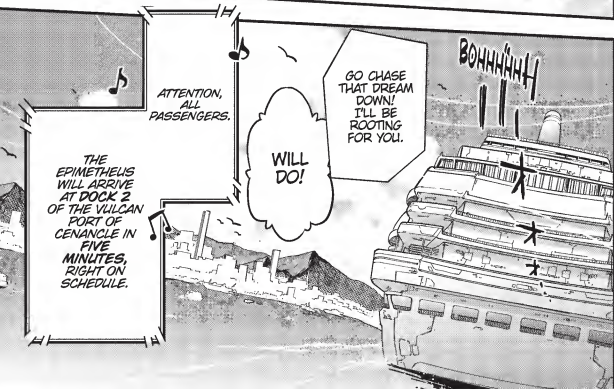
Giddy

Giddy















THE
LADY WAS
SO NICE,
AND THE
GIRL WAS
SO CUTE!



SIGH...



OKAY,
I'LL
SEE YOU
SOON.
UH-HUH!



IT WAS
MY FIRST
TIME
MEETING
ANYONE
LIKE ME.



I
HOPE...

WE CAN
BE
FRIENDS.





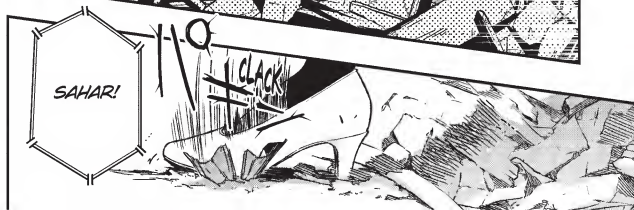














HIYA!

I'M HOME!

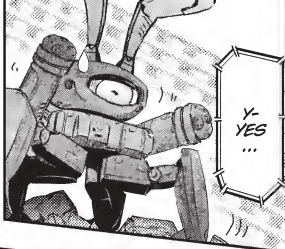
SAHAR
SCHEHERA!

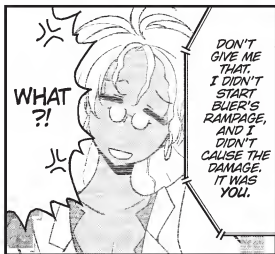
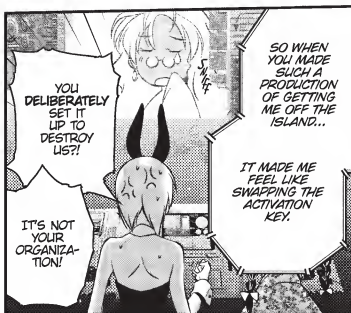
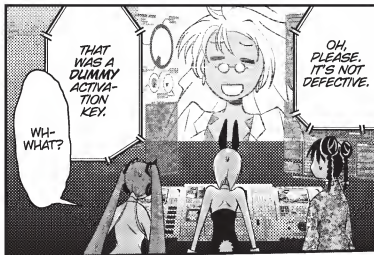
YOU
IDIOTS!

KRECH

KRECH

KRECH





H-HAND
OVER
BLUR'S
REAL
ACTIVATION
KEY!!

RIGHT.

HEH
HEH.

I SHOULD
GIVE A
PRESENT TO
WHOEVER
EGGED YOU
ON. THEY
HELPED ME
SEE YOUR
TRUE
COLORS.

CALM
YOUR-
SELVES,
PETS.

STROKE
STROKE

IF ONE
MEASLY
TOWN GETS
YOU SO
WORKED UP,
YOU MIGHT
AS WELL
FORGET
ABOUT A
COUP
D'ETAT.

HA
HA
HA!

NGGH
--!

HISS! ㄣ

I HATE
HOW YOU
LOOK
DOWN ON
EVERYONE
ELSE!

SHUT
UP!

SHOULDN'T
YOU BE
CRYING
FOR HELP?

BUT IN THE
MEANTIME,
AREN'T YOU
BURIED
ALIVE DOWN
THERE?

BULL'S-EYE

SO
STUPID.



CHASSH

SKRRK

FYOON

WHRRRD

FWOOSH

CLAR...!!

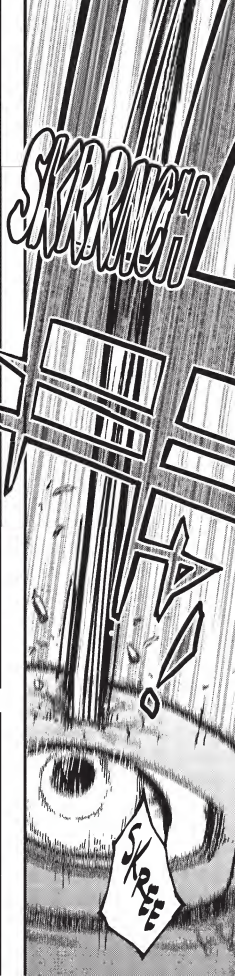
LIZAL-SAAAN!
CLARA-CHAAAAN!

CLARION!

CLARA-RIN!

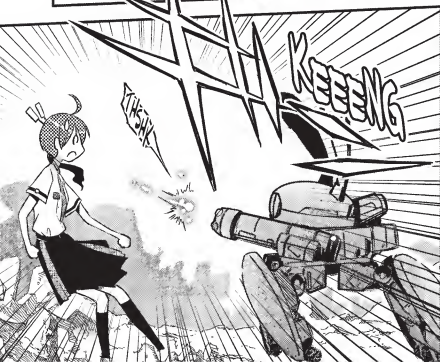
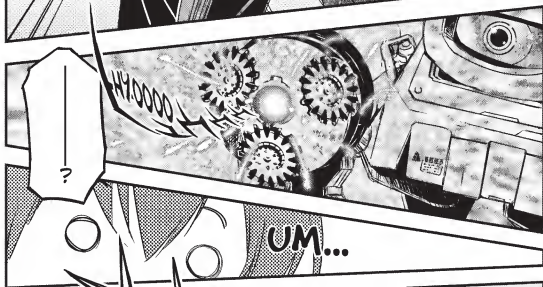
CLARA...
RIN...?

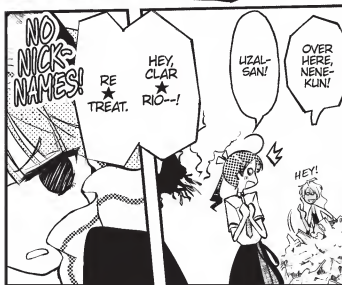
SKREE

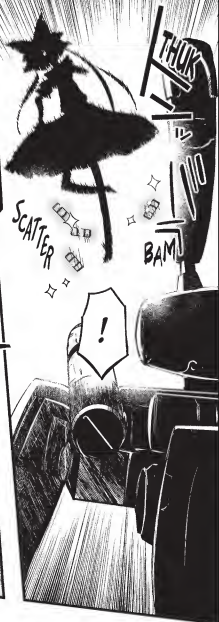
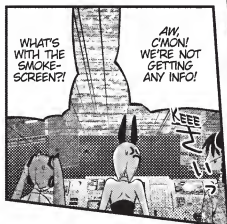














THAT'S
THE FACIAL
EXPRESSION
I TAUGHT YOU,
BUT YOU GOT
THE WORDS
WRONG.



SO CLOSE
...

YOU...
YOU
WHAT
...?

BLUSH

I'M
TEMPORARILY
AUTHORIZING
NANAKOROB
NENE TO
USE THE
PANDORA
DEVICE.

YOU
NEED TO
PUT YOUR
FINGER
IN HERE.

FIRST...

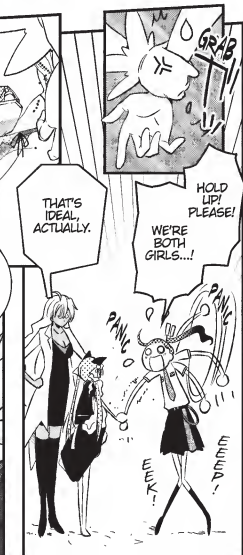
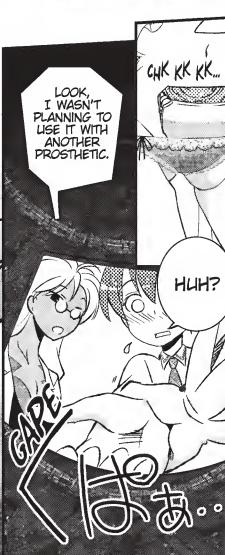
H-HOW
INDECENT!
BUT...
MY
HEART'S
POUND-
ING...!

YEEEP?!
FLAIL

U-UM,
WHAT'S
"PANDORA"?

HUH?

FLAIL





AHH...!

TH!THMP

DEEP
INSIDE
ME...
A PLACE I
CAN'T
TOUCH...

RIGHT...
NEXT
TO
THAT--

HANG
ON A
MIN--!

OPEN
THE
PANDORA
DEVICE.

SKILL
RE-
LEASE...

ELDIS
SERIES:
AD-
VANCED
SMALL
ARMS.



**SOMETHING
IS...**

**ENTERING
ME...!**

GHOST URN



GHOST URN



Koniiiiiii

#02

N-NOW,
TAKE A
LOOK AT...
WHATEVER'S
HAPPENING
THERE.

WHAT
...?!

THIS IS
UNFOLDING
RIGHT NOW
IN THE CITY
OF VULCAN
ON THE
ISLAND OF
CENACLE.

© LIVE

00'07''34

COULD WE
BE SEEING
MASSIVE
VOLCANIC ACTI-
VITY? THE EARTH
IS RUMBLING,
AND ALL OVER
THE CITY,
THE GROUND IS
EXPLODING!
OH--! ANOTHER
BUILDING IS--

REPORTING
LIVE FROM
THIS IN-
CREASINGLY
DANGEROUS
SITE, YOUR
INTREPID
REPORTER...



VLIN--

KRRR

KRRRRR

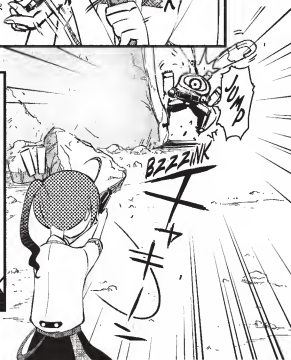
BAM

KRRR

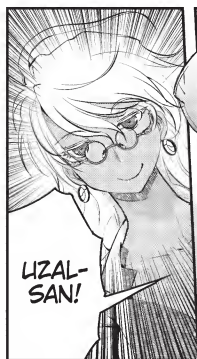
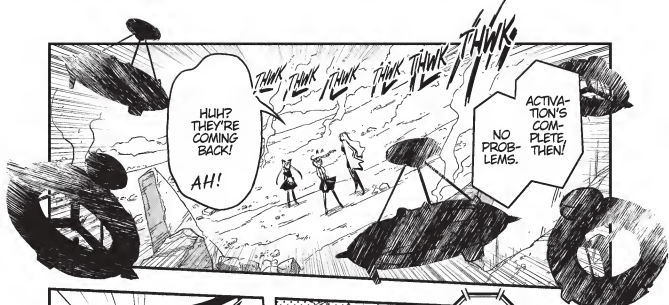
#02 » Episode 1-2

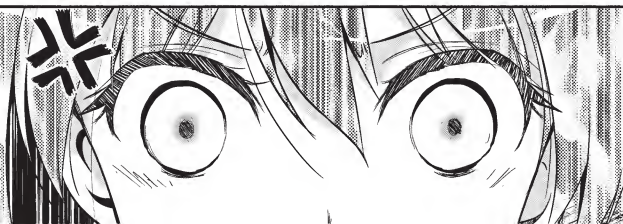
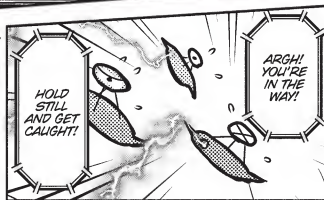














JUST
LIKE I
THOUGHT.



AN
ADEPTER.

THIS
GIRL'S...



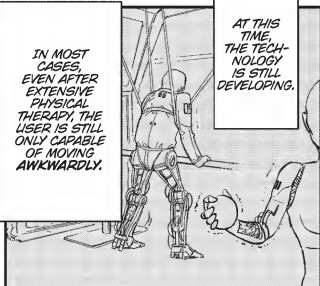
WHAT IS A FULL-BODY PROSTHETIC?


BUT GETTING
DIRECT ACCESS TO
CLINICAL CASES IS
DIFFICULT OUTSIDE
OF TECHNOLOGI-
CALLY-ADVANCED
COUNTRIES. THE
TECH WON'T BE
WIDESPREAD FOR
SOME TIME YET.

AN
UNLUCKY
FEW
ARE ES-
SENTIALLY
WHOLLY
INCOMPAT-
IBLE WITH
THEIR PRO-
STHETIC.

IN MOST
CASES,
EVEN AFTER
EXTENSIVE
PHYSICAL
THERAPY, THE
USER IS STILL
ONLY CAPABLE
OF MOVING
AWKWARDLY.

AT THIS
TIME,
THE TECH-
NOLOGY
IS STILL
DEVELOPING.





WITH THE
FREEDOM
AND AGILITY
ONE MIGHT
EXPECT TO
FIND WITH
A REAL
HUMAN BODY.
AND MORE
THAN THAT...



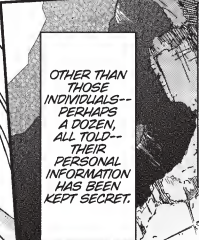
SPECIAL
CASES
HAVE BEEN
REPORTED
WHERE
PATIENTS
HAVE GAINED
THE ABILITY
TO CONTROL
THE PROS-
THETIC...



RIGHT NOW,
THERE ARE
SO FEW
ADEPTERS
OUT
THERE...



WHAT
WERE THE
ODDS OF
FINDING
ONE
HERE?



OTHER THAN
THOSE
INDIVIDUALS--
PERHAPS
A DOZEN,
ALL TOLD--
THEIR
PERSONAL
INFORMATION
HAS BEEN
KEPT SECRET.

WORLDWIDE,
ONLY A FEW
ADEPTERS HAVE
BEEN OFFICIALLY
REPORTED.
THEIR TALENT
COMPENSATES
FOR THE
RELATIVE
NEWNESS
OF THE
TECHNOLOGY.

CLATTER

BUMWUM

BOOM

WIND

IT WAS
ORIGINALLY
DEVELOPED AS
AN APP FOR
SUPPLEMENTARY
CONTROL OF
HUMANOID
ROBOTS.

WHAT
SHE PUT
INTO YOU
EARLIER.

RELOAD.



HUH?



ELDIS
SERIES:
ADVANCED
SMALL
ARMS.

IT'S AN
ADD-ON THAT
ALLOWS
CONTROL OF
DIFFERENT
PROSTHETIC
FUNCTIONS.



FYOOM

INCOMING.

WH-
WHA--?

FYOOM



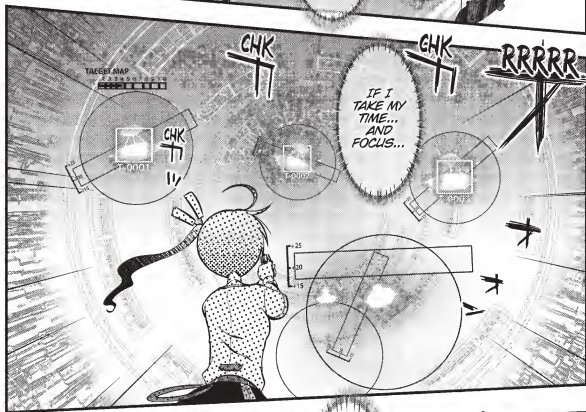
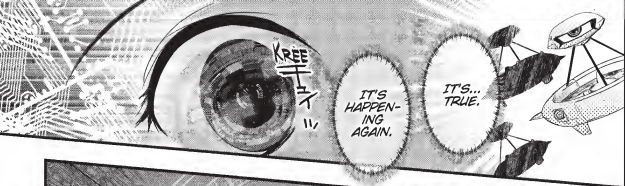
OH

YOU
CAN
DO
THAT
...?

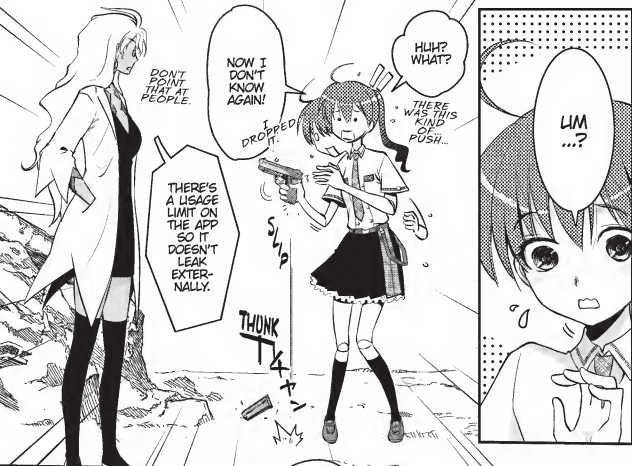
IT'S A
PROGRAM
CONTAINING
PROFES-
SIONAL-
CALIBER
SHOOTING
ABILITY.

YOU
LEARNED
THOSE
SKILLS.











RIGHT ABOUT NOW, SHE'S HOLED UP IN THERE AND CRYING.

SHE'S SUCH A CHICKEN THAT SHE BUILT A FIRST-RATE SHELTER AT HER OFFICE.



HUH...? DO YOU KNOW HER?

OH, SURE! WE'RE PRACTICALLY FRIENDS! BEST FRIENDS!

BUT IF SHE'S MY AUNT'S FRIEND, THEN SHE'S OKAY. THANK GOODNESS!

OH! REALLY?

SHE'S WALKING AROUND WITH GUNS AND STUFF, SO I THOUGHT MAYBE SHE WAS A LITTLE SCARY OR SOMETHING...

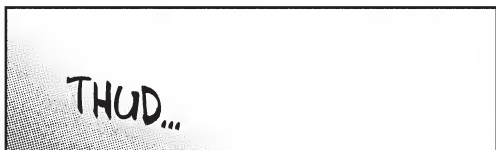
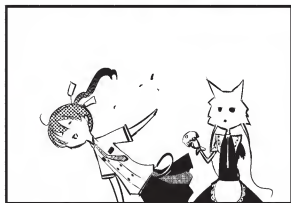
AND CLARA-RIN'S SOOOO CUTE!

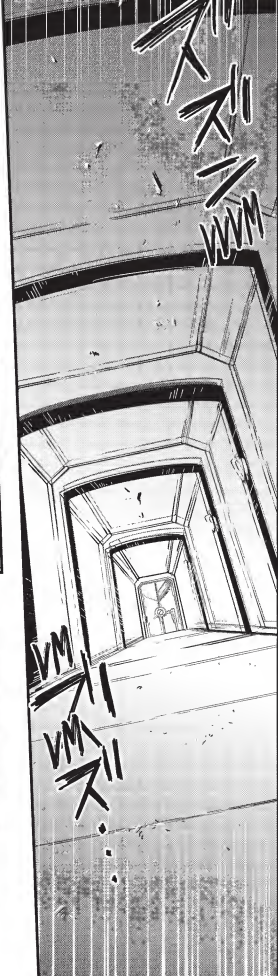
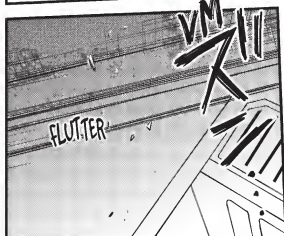
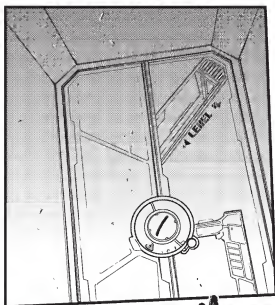
ALTHOUGH, CLARA-RIN'S CUTE.

OKAY! LET'S GO FIND SOMEPLACE SAFE!

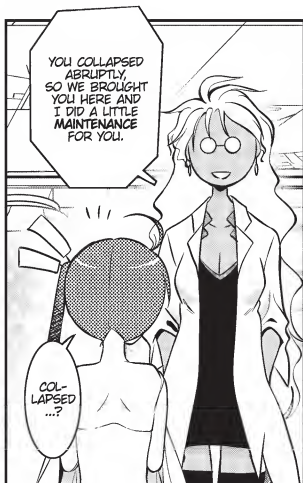
STRIDE

















AH!

ROT
IN
HELL!

WELL,
YOU CAN
SEE THE
SITUATION.

KRNCH
KRNCH
TAT
TAT
TAT

I--!

I DO...
BUT...

SO!
YOU
KNOW
WHAT
TO DO,
RIGHT?



IT'S...
COMING
IN
AGAIN...

HUH?

IT'S A
LITTLE
DIFFERENT
THAN
BEFORE...

OH--!

?!

FYOOM

FWOOSH

Pandora Device
OPTICAL
CAMOUFLAGE
MODE

Pandora
Device
Dark Flame





TRALALALA!

DoDoDoDo!

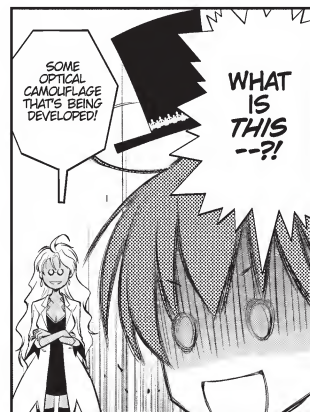
Pop

GLOOOOW

VOILA!



USE
WHATEVER
YOU
LIKE!



SOME
OPTICAL
CAMOUFLAGE
THAT'S BEING
DEVELOPED!

WHAT
IS THIS
--?!



TOP
SECRET

HUH?
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND!

I STICK
MORE
TO THIS!

NATURALLY,
TO KEEP THIS
ALL TOP-
SECRET,
WE HAVE TO
DISGUISE YOUR
IDENTITY.

U
EQUIP-
PED?!

WHOA!

I SORT
OF
EQUIPPED
YOU
WITH IT.

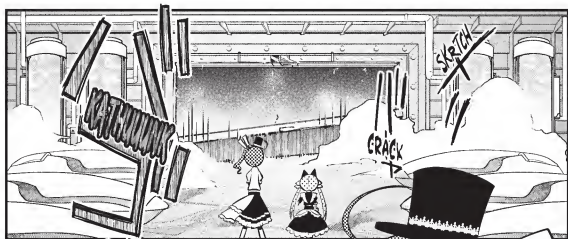
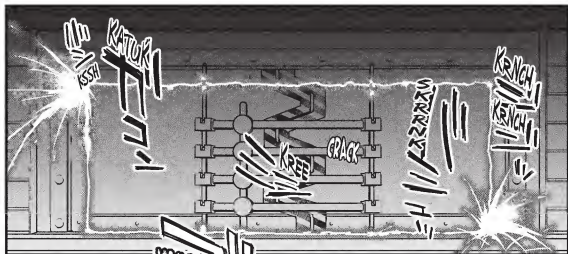
CAMOU-
FLAGE...?

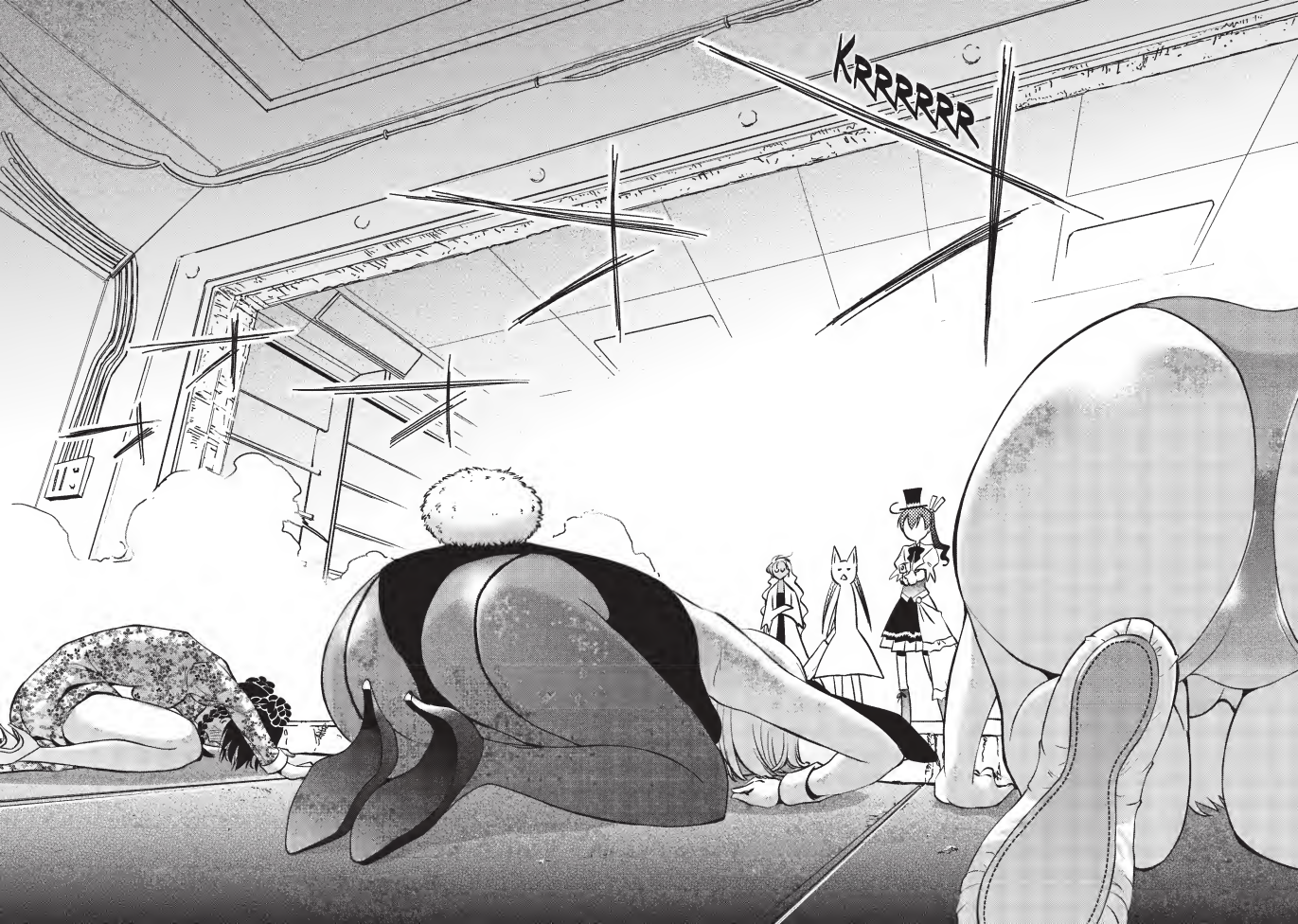
U

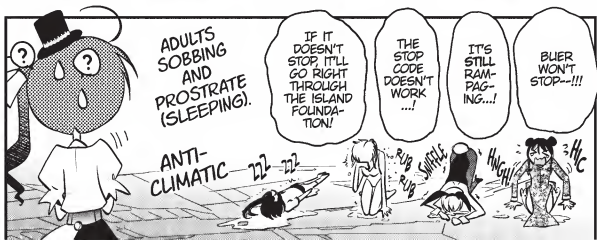
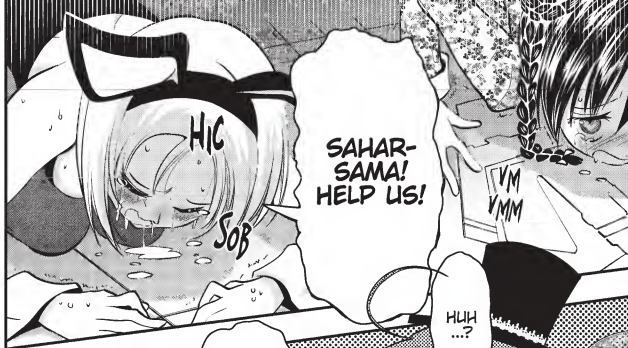
WEAPONS
ARE
OVER
HERE!

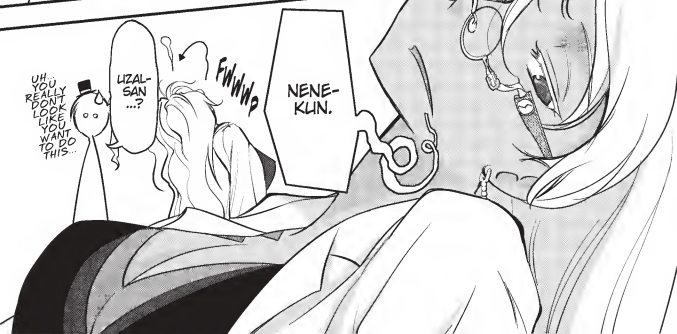
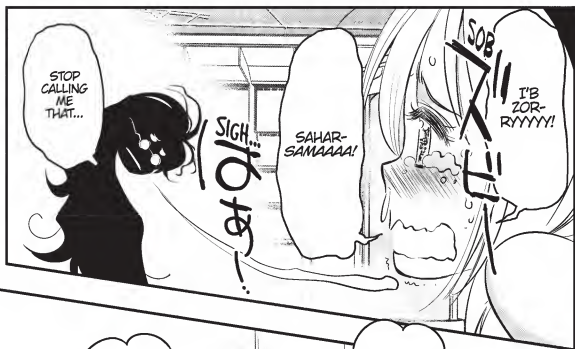
TA-DA!

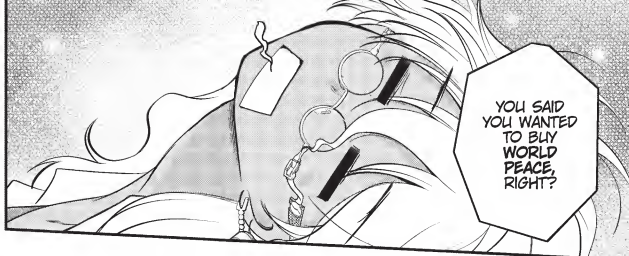












YOU SAID
YOU WANTED
TO BUY
WORLD
PEACE,
RIGHT?

STARTING
BY TRYING
TO BUY
PEACE FOR
THIS
ISLAND?

HOW
DO YOU
FEEL
ABOUT...



GHOST URN



GHOST URN



Konini



TOO BAD FOR
THE CLIQUE
BACK IN THE
OFFICE THAT
THEY MISSED
OUT ON THE
CHANCE TO BE
HERE WITH ME
WHILE THIS
FAMOUS ISLAND
IS ON THE
BRINK OF
DISASTER!

IT'S ALL BAD
NEWS HERE!
BUILDINGS
ARE BEING
DESTROYED!
THE CITY IS IN
LITTER CHAOS!
WE'RE ALL
CHOKING ON
THE SMOKE
FILLING
THE AIR!



THERE'S
MORE
GOING ON
THAN
MEETS
THE EYE!

WHAT'S
REALLY
HAPPENING
HERE ON
CENANCE?!

THAT'S
SUCH
A SAD
THING
TO SAY
THAT I
HAD TO
SAY IT
TWICE!

GRAVITY
SHOULD
DROP
DEAD!
STUPID
NEWTON!

WHAT
WE'RE
SEEING
HERE
ISN'T
THE
WHOLE
TRUTH
OF THE
SITUATION!

THAT'S RIGHT!
IT'S ME, THE
SUPER-HUGE IDOL
HYPERMEDIA
CREATOR!
THE PRIDE AND
JOY OF TITAN TV,
THE SUPREME,
ULTIMATE TV
STATION THAT
OUTSHINES
THEM ALL...

THERE'S A
CONSPIRACY
HIDDEN DEEP
IN THE
SHADOWS
HERE, AND
YOUR INTREPID
REPORTER IS
ON THE SCENE,
BRINGING YOU
THE TRUTH!

VLIN
--!

GLEAM



KRRKRRR

#

03

» Episode 1-3





HUH?
ME?

SIGH...

LOOK, MY
COMPANY'S
ROBOT IS
OUT OF
CONTROL
BECAUSE OF
CERTAIN
IDIOTS.

AND
NOW THE
TOWN'S
ON THE
VERGE OF
TOTAL
DESTRUCTION.

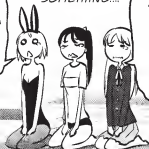


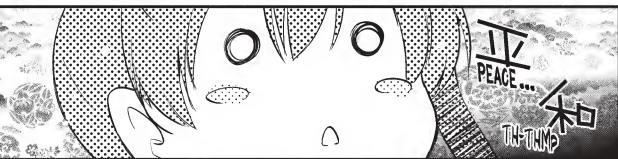
PTOO

I
DON'T
WANNA
DIE...

DO
SOMETHING...!

YOU'LL
HELP
US,
WON'T
YOU?







HERE
AND NOW,
THERE'S
SOMETHING
ONLY YOU
CAN DO.



YES,
YOU
CAN.

YOU
DRAH?

ROLL
グ

ROLL
グ



YOU WANT
TO TRY
AND BUY
PEACE
FOR THIS
LITTLE
ISLAND...

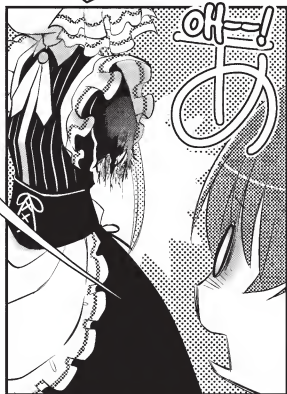
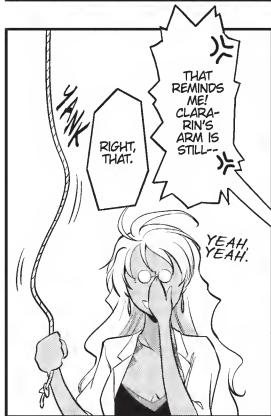


SO...
ABOUT
THE
ROBOT...?

UM...

WITH YOUR
COURAGE?









OKAY!
BACK
TO THE
BUGER
PROBLEM.

WILL
YOU
HELP?



**UNDERGOING
MAINTENANCE.**



HELP
WITH
CLARION.

HELP...



**UNDERGOING
MAINTENANCE.**

W-
W-
W-
WITH...



IF YOU
HAVE
NO ONE
ELSE TO
TURN
TO!

YES,
I
WILL!

NOW,
ABOUT
STRATEGY!

NEGOTIA-
TIONS
CON-
CLUDED,
THEN.

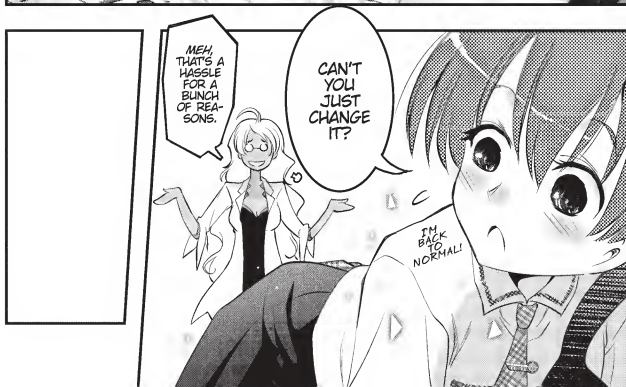
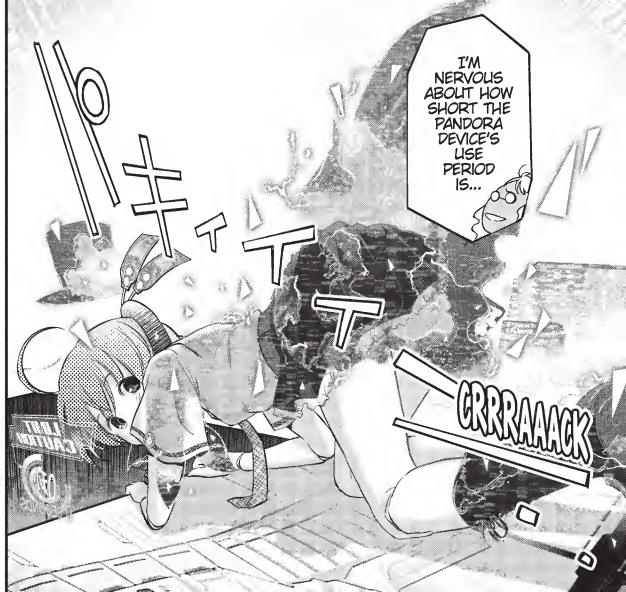
SHNFFF

FY0000

BEEEEP

LIMIT
TENSION
0秒
0 SECONDS

OH!



IS AN
INDEPENDENT
BORING
MACHINE FOR
EXCAVATING
VALUABLE
METALS.

SO
SHINY!

BLIER,
THE
MACHINE
YOU'RE
ABOUT TO
FACE...

TWITCH

ZSH

ZSH

ZSH

WELL....
LET'S
JUST SAY
THEY'RE
WORTH A
LOT OF
MONEY.

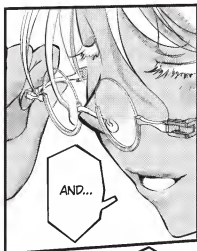
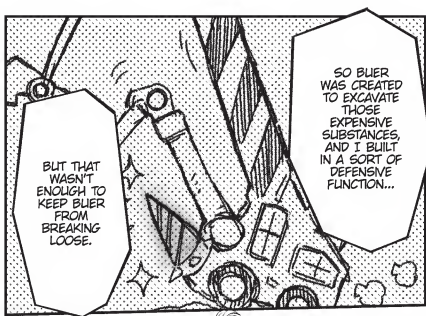
DUE TO
REPLACEMENT
TECHNOLOGY,
MOST OF THEM
ARE NOW IN
INCREASED
DEMAND--
EVEN THE FIFTY-
FOUR METALS
THAT USED TO BE
RARE BUT ARE
COMMON NOW.

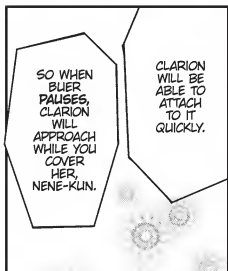
H A N G H

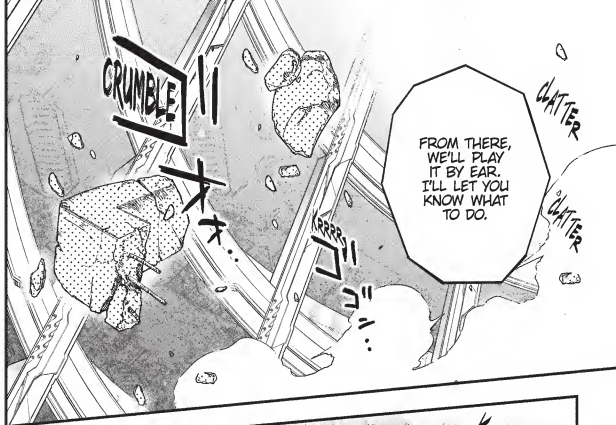
THEY'RE
ALSO USED
IN YOUR
BODY,
NENE-KUN.

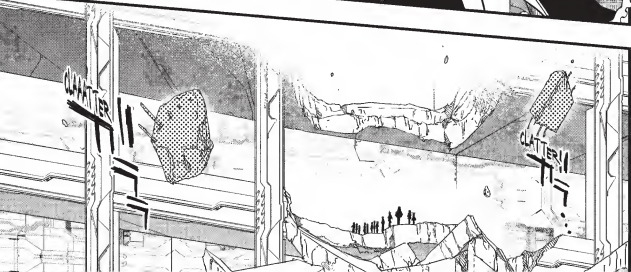
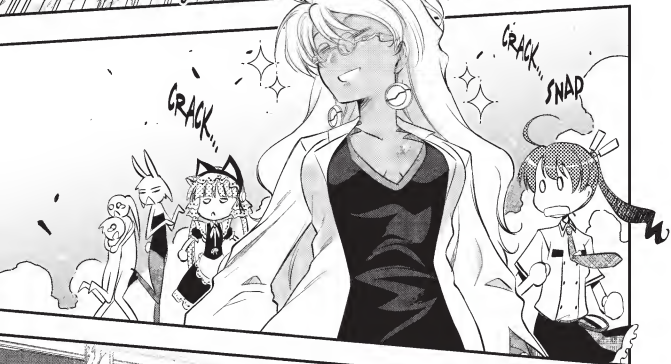
YOU
CHANGED
CLOTHES!

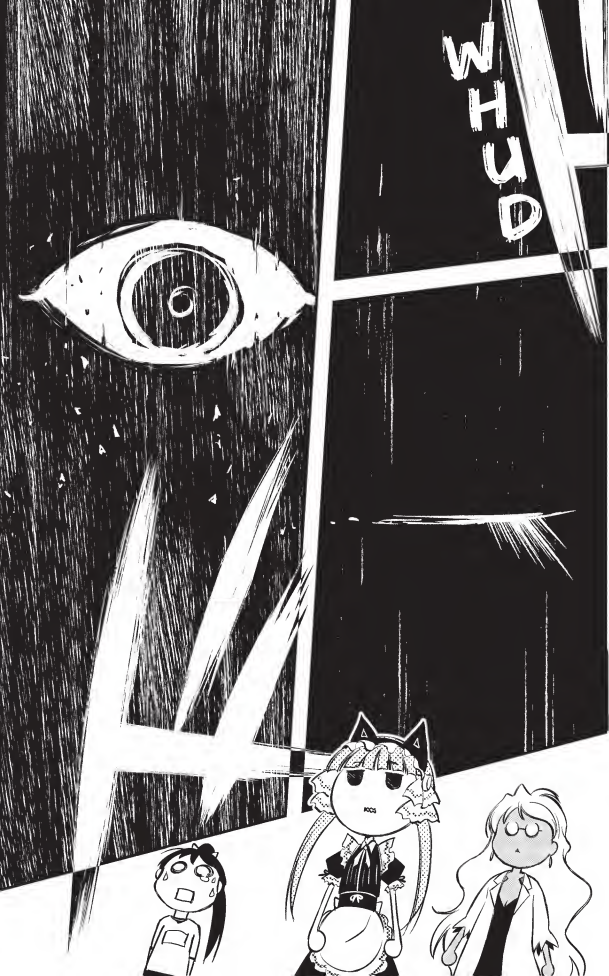
VALUABLE
METALS?



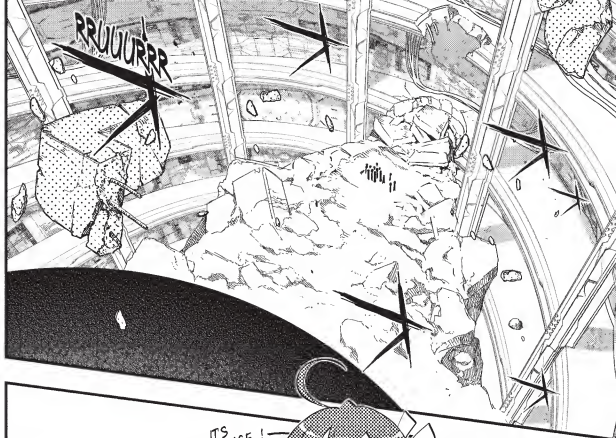


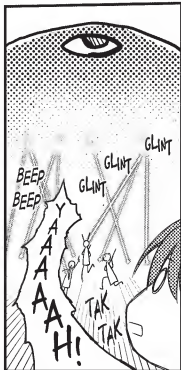


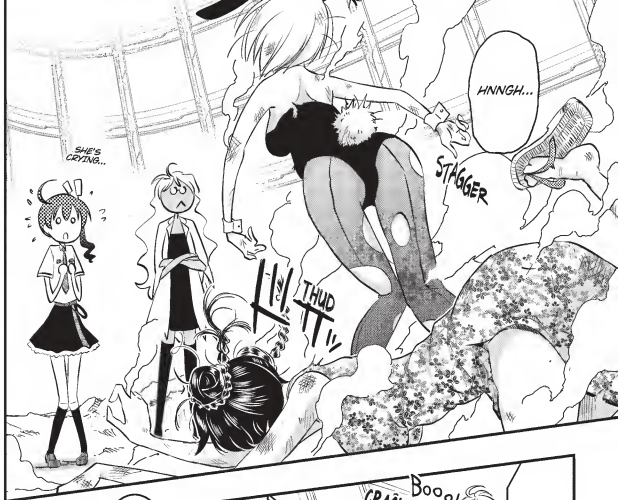






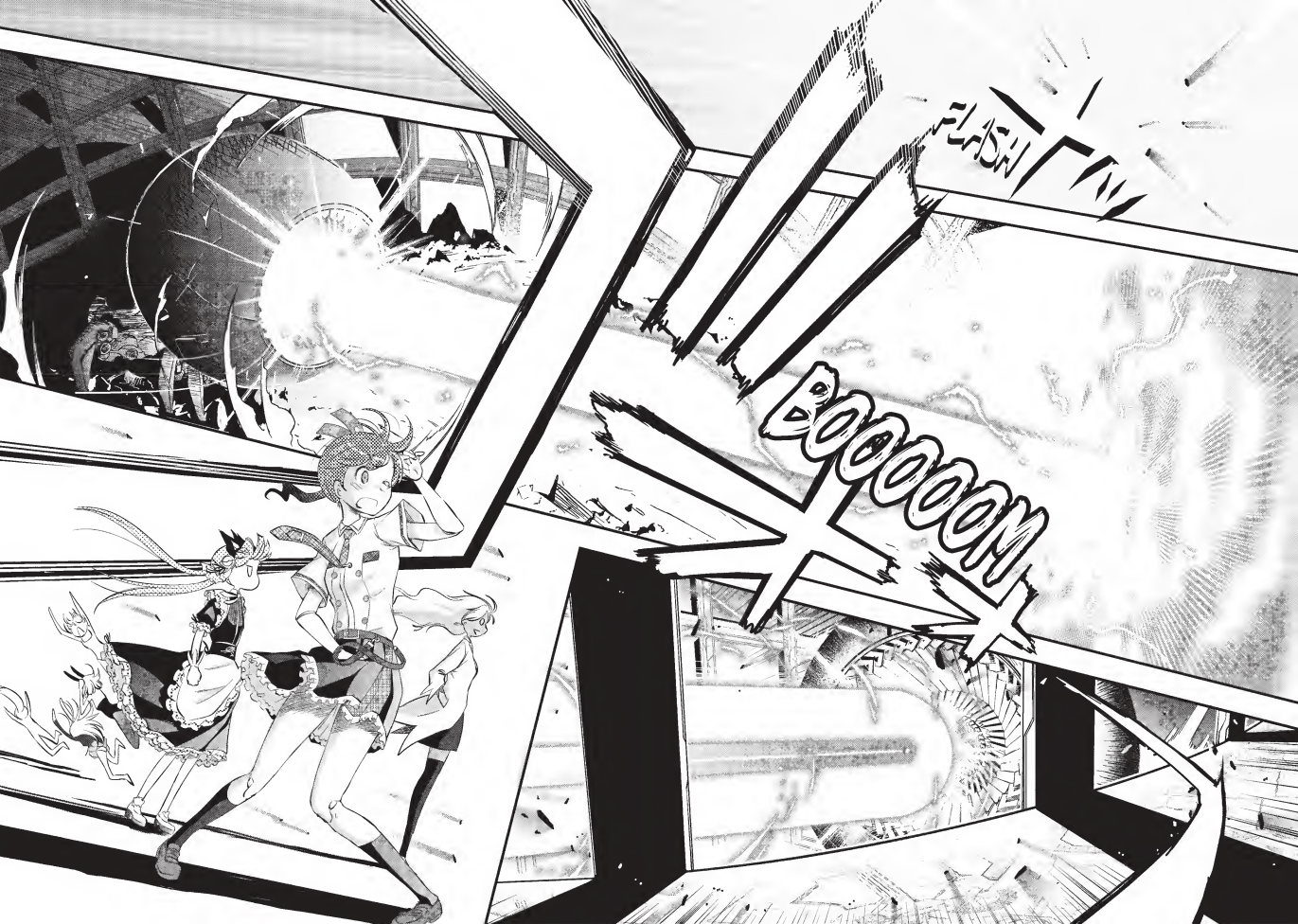




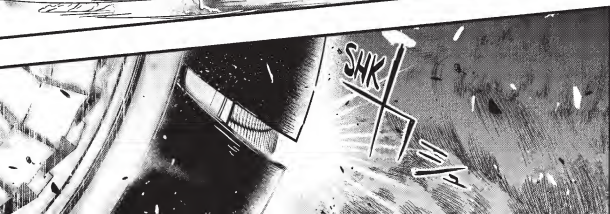
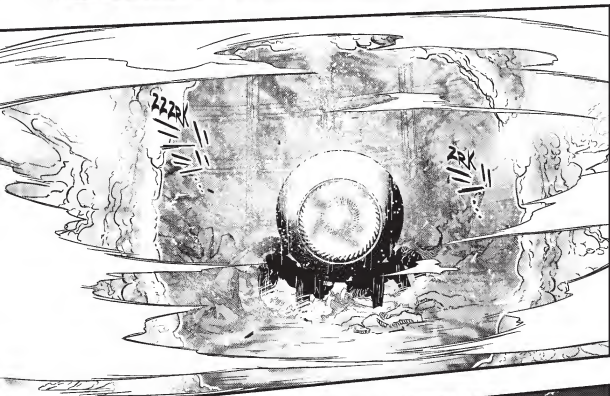
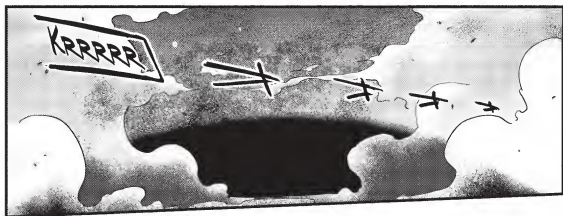
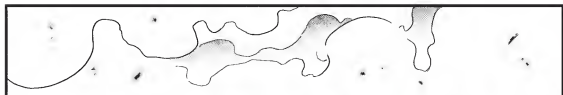


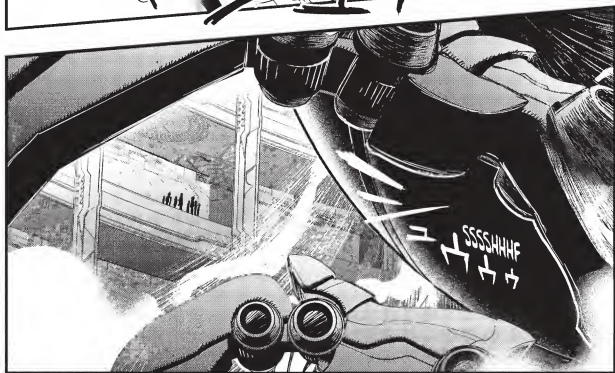
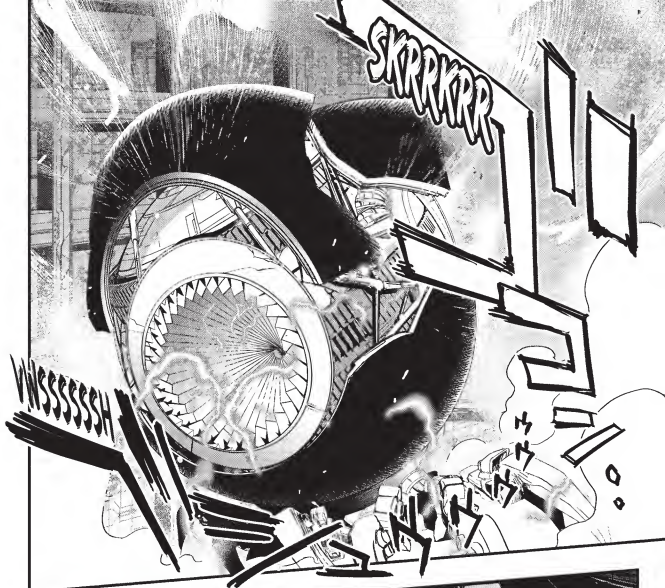
WE'RE SO
SCREWED.











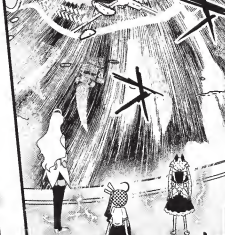
THIS IS
YOUR
WINDOW OF
OPPORTUNITY!

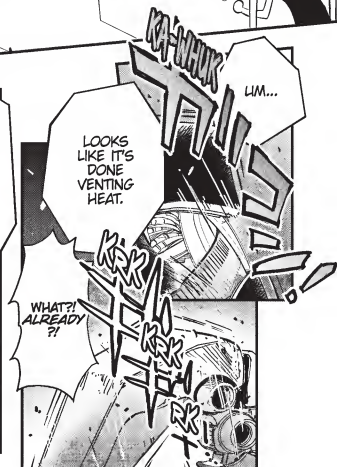
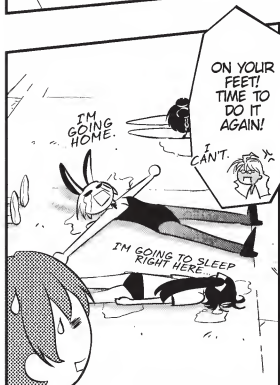
RIGHT
NOW BLIER
ONLY HAS
BARE-BONES
DEFENSES.



RRRUUUURR

OKAY!
THE
FORCED
COOL-
DOWN'S
STARTED.







SCARED?

I'M
FAMILIAR
WITH THE
CONCEPT...

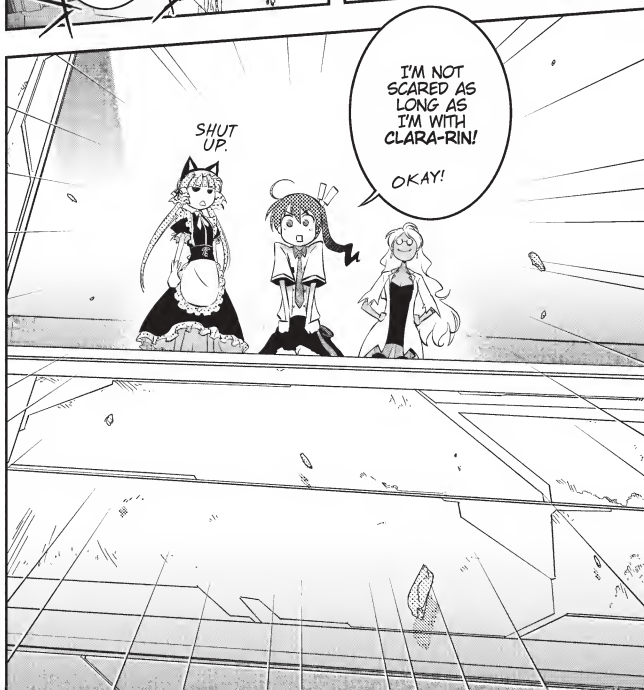
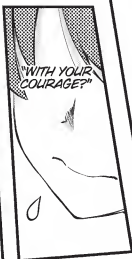
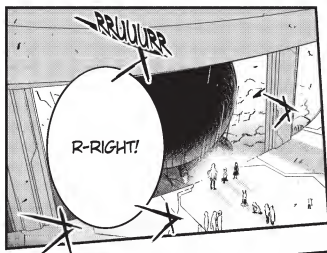


SO...



AREN'T
YOU
SCARED...

CLARA-
RIN?



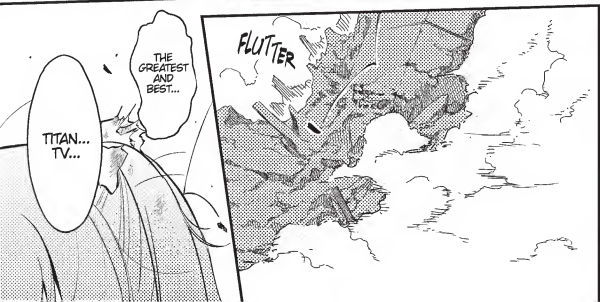
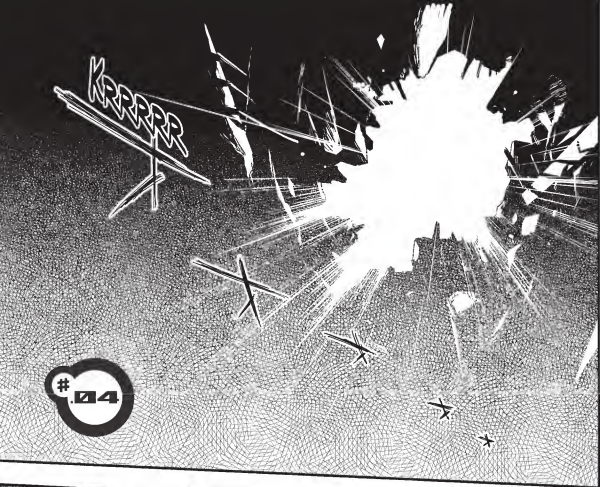
GHOST URN



GHOST URN



Koniiiiiii



SNIFFLE...

THE ISLAND OF
CENACLE HAS A
TON OF UNDER-
GROUND CAVES,
MANY OF WHICH
ARE UTILIZED FOR
CONSTRUCTING
SUBTERRANEAN
FACILITIES.

IT WOULD
SEEM THAT
I FELL
INTO ONE
OF THOSE
FACILITIES
WHEN THAT
MYSTERIOUS
BEAM OF
LIGHT CAVED
ITS ROOF IN.

I WAS TOO
COOL AND
COLLECTED AS
A REPORTER,
AND TOOK ONE
RISK TOO
MANY WITH MY
LIFE. I DON'T
THINK I'LL
LAST MUCH
LONGER.
I LOVE YOU,
BUREAU
CHIEF---

FAREWELL,
EVERYONE---

HYOOOOOOOOO

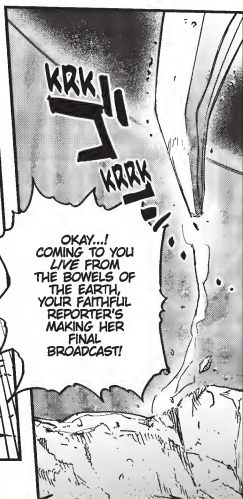


DANGLE...

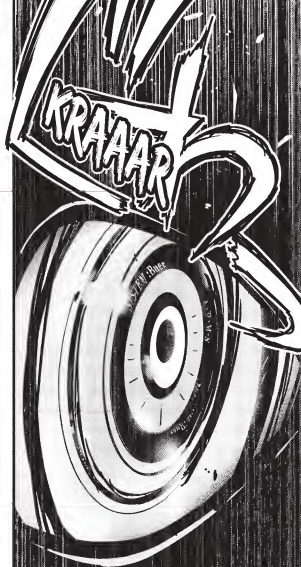
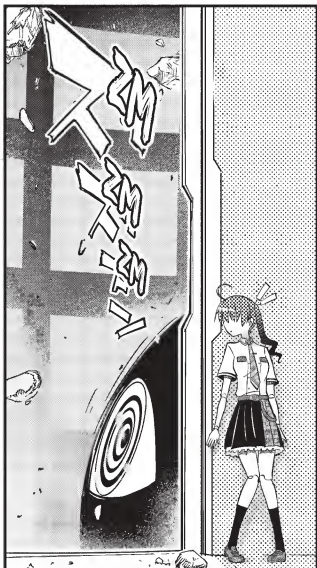
FUUUUUUUU...

AH--!











I'M NOT
PANICKING,
BUT...
I'M
NERVOUS.

I HAVE
TO
CALM
DOWN...

PHEW!

9
12

"I..."

WHAT
AM I EVEN
DOING
HERE...?"

NOPE,
SHE'S
NOT
THINKING
ANYTHING
REMOTELY
LIKE THAT.

INTER-
ESTING
GIRL.

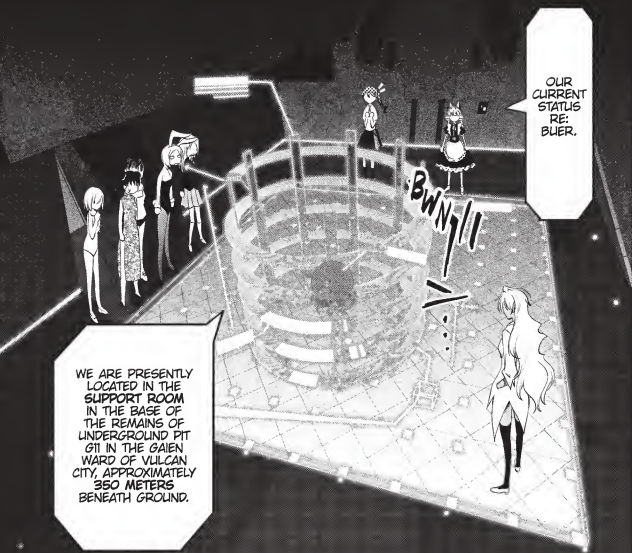
SOUND
OFF!
EVERYONE
IN
POSITION?





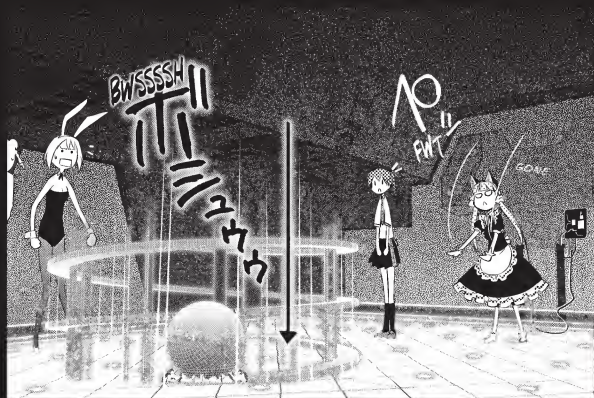
Strategy Meeting
作 戦 会 議





WE ARE PRESENTLY
LOCATED IN THE
SUPPORT ROOM
IN THE BASE OF
THE REMAINS OF
UNDERGROUND PIT
G11 IN THE GAIEN
WARD OF VULCAN
CITY, APPROXIMATELY
350 METERS
BENEATH GROUND.

OUR
CURRENT
STATUS
RE:
BUEE.







I
KNEW
IT....!

HERE
WE
COOOOOO!

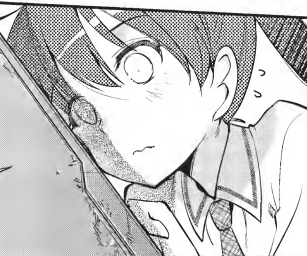
ぱり

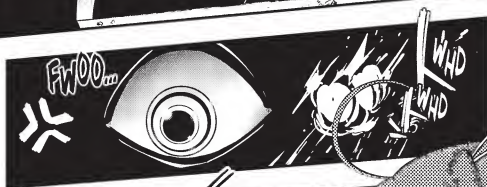
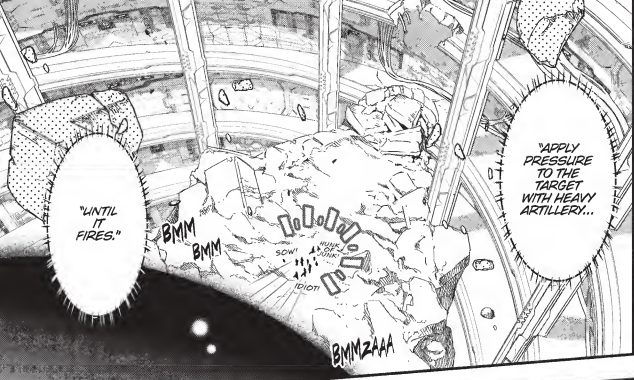
ねえ

ええ

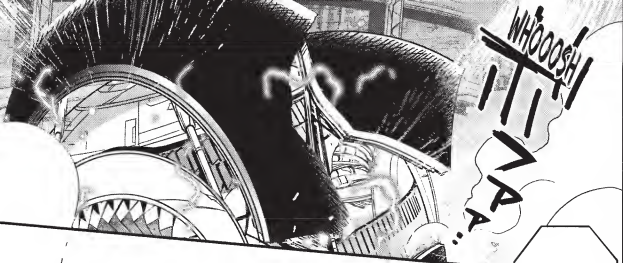
JUST
GET IN
THERE
AND
DO IT!

IT'S
STARTED
....!









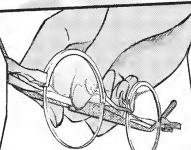


IT PROTECTS
ITS SECRETS
BY HAVING ITS
DEFENSE MECH-
ANISMS FIRE
INDISCRIMINATELY
AT ANYONE
APPROACHING
WITHIN A FIXED
DISTANCE.



DURING
THE BRIEF
PERIOD WHEN
BUER IS IN
EMERGENCY
COOL-DOWN
MODE...

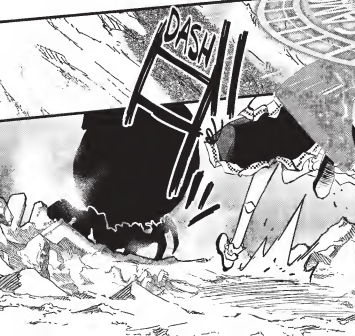
TO DO SOMETHING
ABOUT THIS MESS,
YOU NEED TO SLIP
THROUGH THOSE
DEFENSES, GET
CLOSE, BRING UP
THE MAIN CONSOLE,
AND USE THIS
OFFICIAL KEY.



THAT'S
BETTER THAN
HAVING IT
RAMPAGING,
BUT IT'S STILL
UNTOUCHABLE.



ONCE THE
CENTRAL
NERVOUS UNIT
RECOGNIZES THE
KEY, BUER WILL
RETURN TO A
CONTROLLABLE
STATE.



PRESTO!

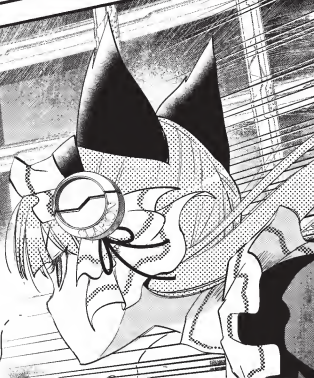
BE
CAREFUL,
OKAY?

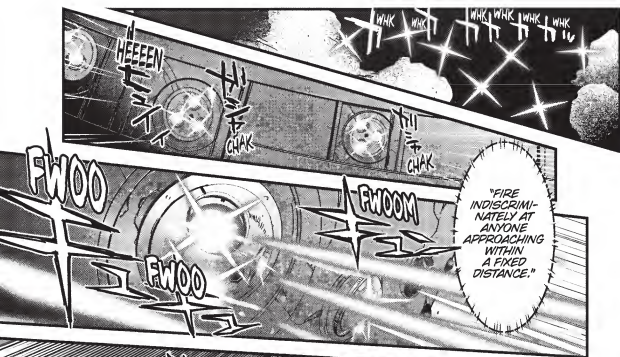
?

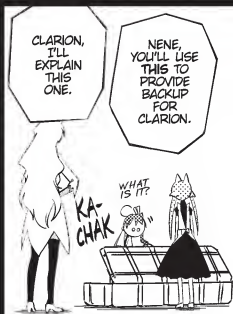
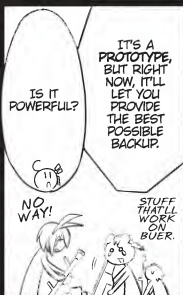
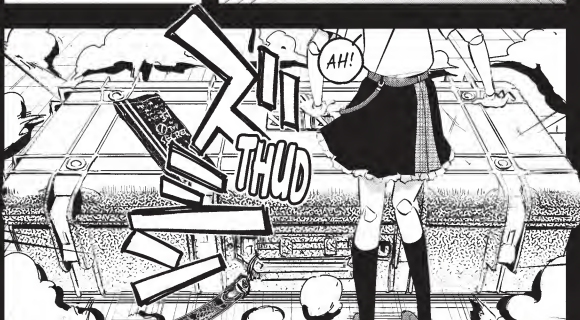
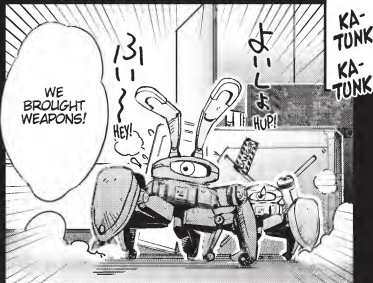
**164 SECONDS
REMAINING.**



**"IT PROTECTS
ITS SECRETS
BY HAVING
ITS DEFENSE
MECHANISMS..."**







THERE'S
ALSO NO
RECOIL
WHEN
FIRING.

IN THEORY,
THERE'S
NO LIMIT AT
ALL TO HOW
FAST YOU
CAN FIRE.

THERE'S
ALMOST
ZERO
LAG TIME
BETWEEN
SIGHTING
AND
HITTING.

WHOA.

IT HITS
THE
TARGET
AS SOON
AS YOU
SEE IT.

EVEN
BETTER!
IT'S
FAST.

BUT THAT
KIND OF
CONTROL
REQUIRES
A HIGH-
PERFORMANCE
AI OR
SOMETHING
SIMILAR.

I'M
TAKING
THIS.

IT CAN ALSO
COORDINATE
WITH THE MAIN
SENSORS AND
SIGHT MULTIPLE
TARGETS
SIMULTANEOUSLY.

THAT'S,
LIKE...
AMAZING.

FULL
ARMOR.

PA
PA
PA
PAAAA!

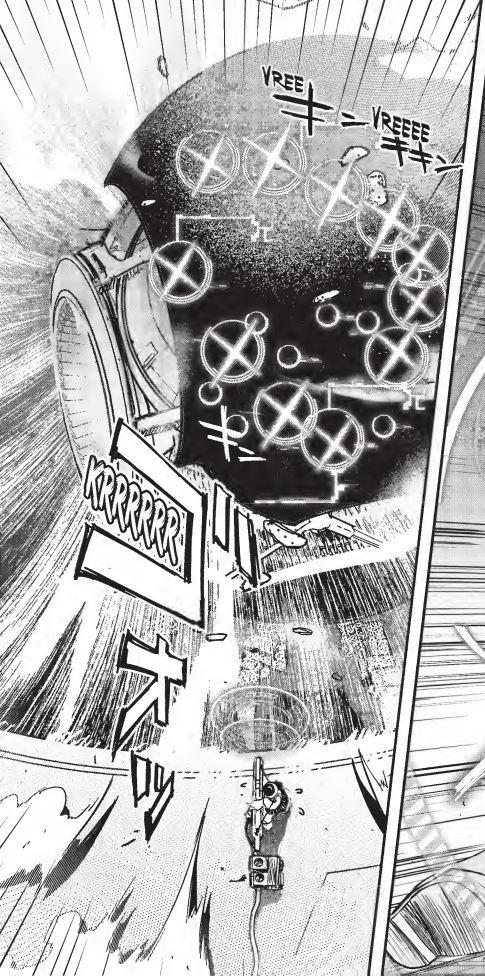
THIS
IS...

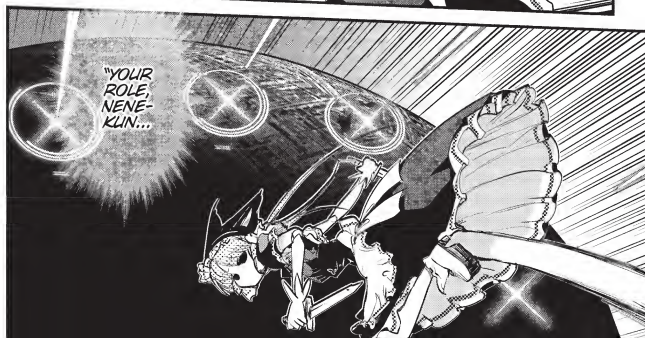
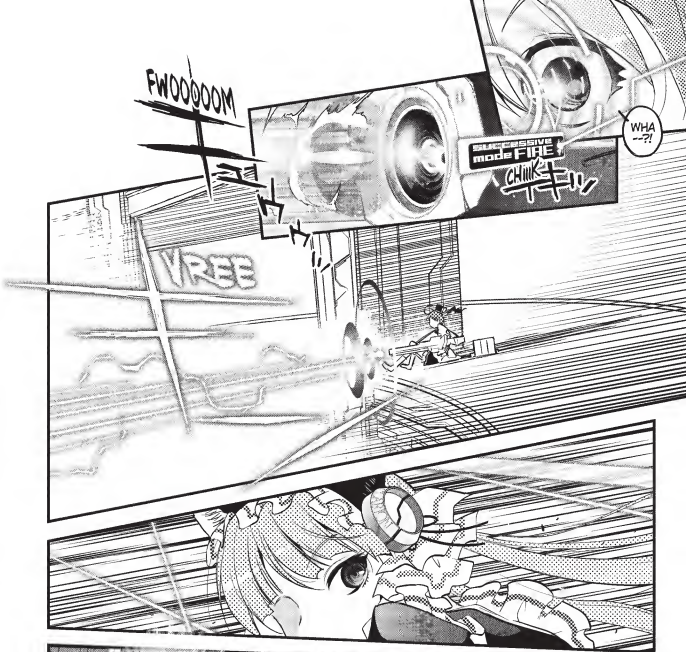
GOOD
ANSWER.

I HOPE
YOU
WON'T BE
OFFENDED
BY THIS
STATEMENT,
BUT...

YES!

NENE-
KLIN.

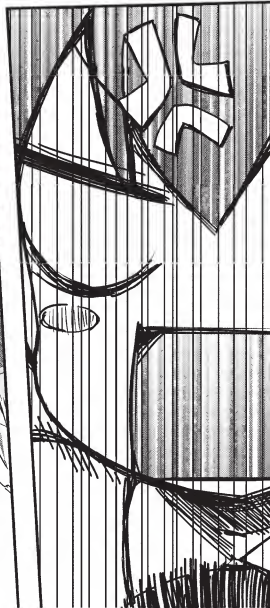
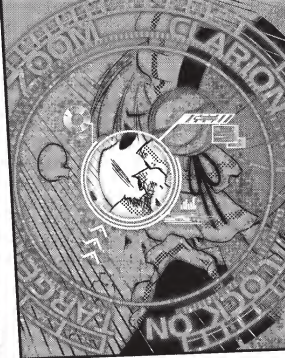
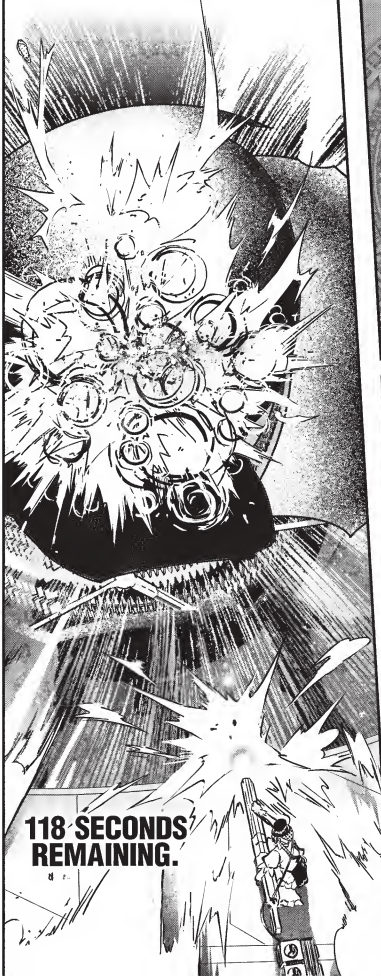


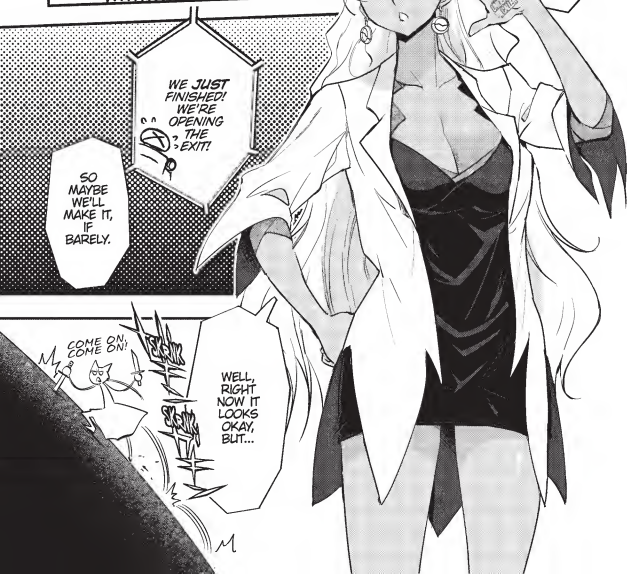
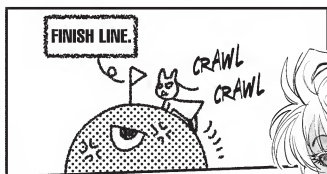
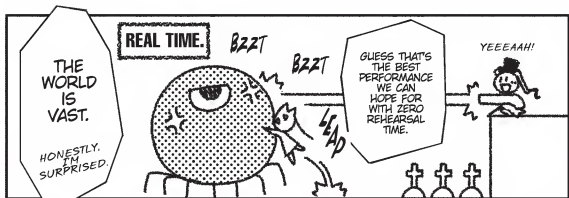


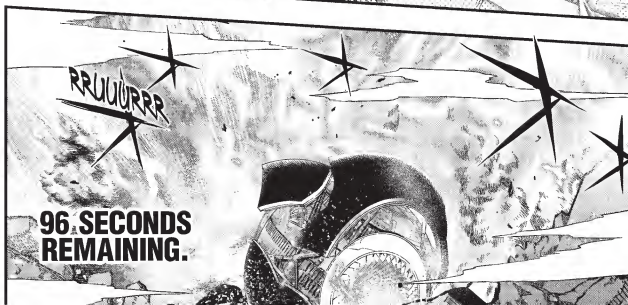
"AND
BACK
HER
UP!"

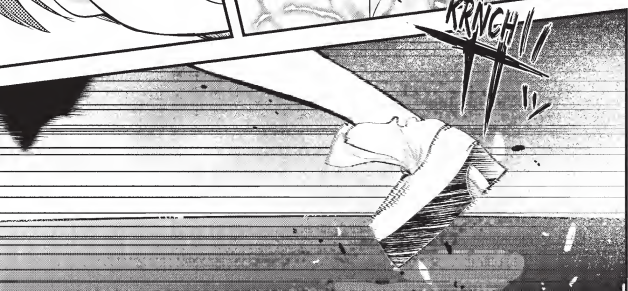
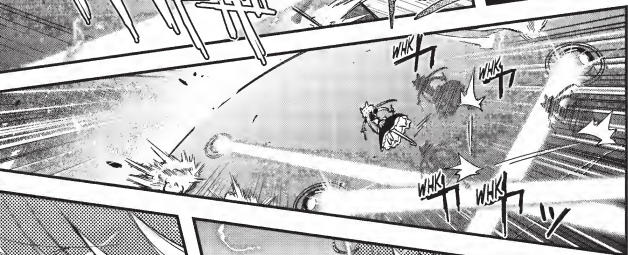
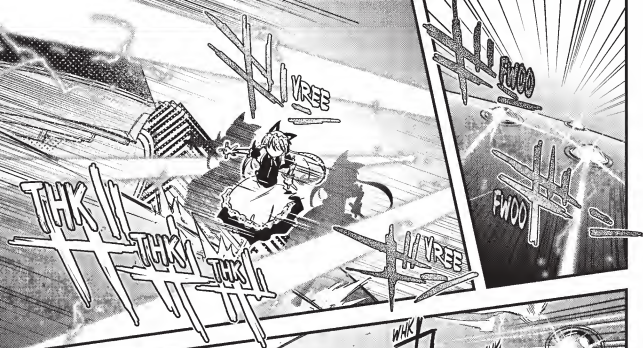
"IS TO
DESTROY THE
DEFENSE
MECHANISMS
REACTING TO
CLARION..."

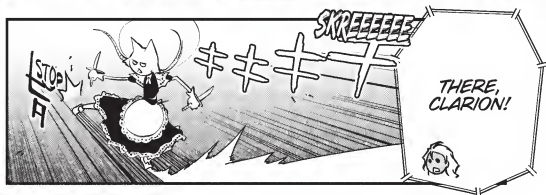


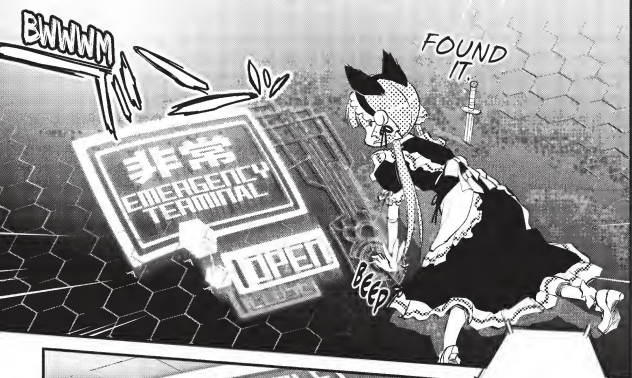








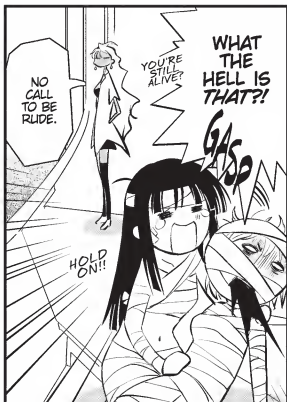
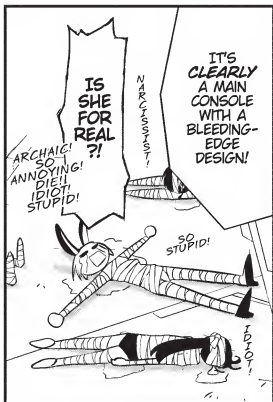




**42 SECONDS
REMAINING.**

TICK TICK TICK







DO I JUST
PUT THEM
ON THE
STATUE...?!

19 SECONDS
REMAINING.

KRR KRRNK...

I'VE
SEEN
THAT
STATUE
SOME-
WHERE
BEFORE.

I
FEEL
LIKE...



CLAR!

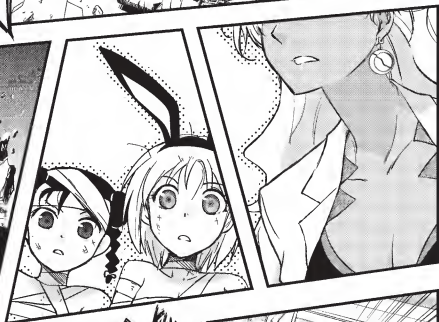


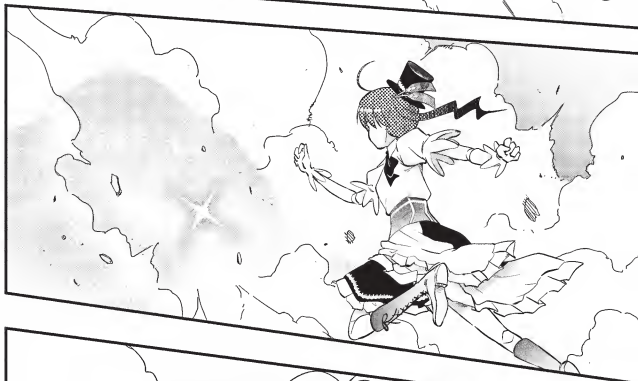
RI!

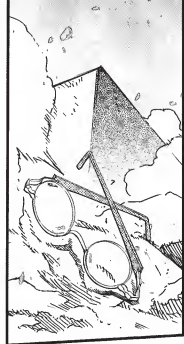


CLARA-
RIN!

KA-KUNK
カクン





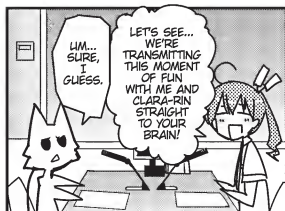




**NENE-
KUN!**

**31 SECONDS
REMAINING.**

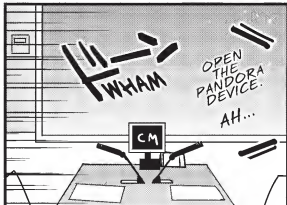
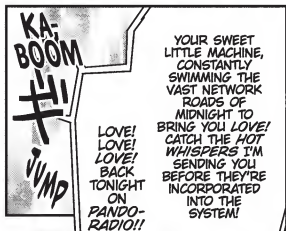
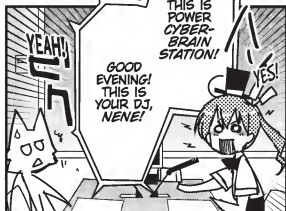
...TO BE CONTINUED



TRANSMITTED SOMEHOW!

PANDORADIO





TO BE CONTINUED...

Island Concept Art

The crescent shape of the whole island is a crater from the initial eruption. Some areas have turned to jungle over time. The smaller surrounding craters were formed in later, smaller eruptions, so there's minimal vegetation. The overall terrain indicates that the foundation formed by flowing lava has been corroded and worn away. There are many sandy beaches on the island, and almost no coral. Many crabs and types of fish can be caught here. There's no large airport. Seaplanes, airships, and helicopters all allow views of the entire island.

INITIAL DESIGN NOTES

X = Region erupting in the beginning of the story.

There was an eruption here relatively recently, and this is a region with almost no people and little vegetation.

Hidden Garden.

Thick jungle around here.

Town Area.

Town Area.

Wealthy Area.

Buer Concept

The mecha Buer didn't have a concrete design specified other than "huge, tough, unparalleled destructive power." Considering its strength, my first ideas were concepts like those below.



Greetings!

This series was originally conceived of in July 2008 at the request of an animation studio. The plan has been slumbering away since then, after it was put on hold for a variety of reasons. It incorporates a number of elements submitted by the animation studio, such as the protagonist being an amateur/untrained girl with problems (LOL) and the villain being easy to spot. It may also include some things which some people might feel aren't particularly in the style of Shirow Masamune. For that, I beg your pardon.

Now we have the chance to release this story with *Newtype Ace* magazine, and I have to express my deep gratitude to our editor, Rikudou-shi, and everyone else involved in this project.

The reason I didn't turn this into manga myself is that, to begin with, my art style is old. I knew it'd end up being reminiscent of *Ghost in the Shell* and other existing works. I also knew that the resulting work would be more sluggish than planned, because I have the tendency to not make things cheerful and fun, and on top of that, to argue for the sake of argument (which is annoying). It definitely does not mean that I haven't been taking this project seriously. (LOL)

Basically, I presented the character designs for the rough story flow and pacing to Rikudou-shi, and then gave him a lot of freedom to move forward. Maybe I'll get the chance to show the character and mecha designs I created in 2008 once the series is over and I can compile the drawings into an art book or something. (I might not, though.)

Thanks to Rikudou-shi, this idea of mine has become an even better manga, and I sincerely hope it makes someone, somewhere, feel that reading it was time well spent.

January 23, 2013
Shirow Masamune



SHIROW MASAMUNE

GHOST URN
■■■■■■■■■■ ■■■■



STAFF

Original
story

Shirow Masamune (in cooperation with Crossroad)

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Rikudou Koushi

Compo-
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Rin Hitotose
Rikudou Koushi

Art
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Takepon G
Unamu Kibayashida

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Design

Noriyuki Jinguji (Zin Studio)

Special thanks to Seishinsha Co., Ltd.



GHOSTURN

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

PANDORA IN THE CRIMSON SHELL

GHOST URN vol.01

story by **SHIROW MASAMUNE** / art by **RIKUDOU KOUSHI**

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KOUKAKU NO PANDORA volume 1

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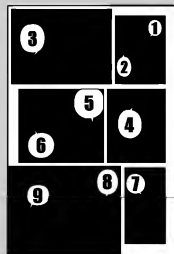
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10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!






GHOST URN

**An exciting new cyberpunk series
from two manga legends: Shirow Masamune,
the creator of *Ghost in the Shell*, and
Rikudou Koushi, the creator of *Excel Saga*!**

When Nanakorobi Nene, a cybernetically-enhanced girl-next-door, heads to the island metropolis of Cenacle to live with her aunt, she has no way of knowing what's in store for her. A chance meeting intertwines her fate with that of the super-rich inventor, Uzal Delilah, and her adorable and grumpy companion, Clarion, who happens to be a cyborg just like Nene.

Nene is thrilled to make a friend, but there's more to Uzal and Clarion—and the island of Cenacle itself—than meets the eye. When a super-powered terrorist threatens Cenacle, Uzal claims that the only way to avert disaster is for Nene to team up with Clarion and use their combined powers—abilities Nene never even knew she had!

Two cyborg girls... One tremendous power!



Rated: TEEN

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